FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 SEPTEMBER 1985

Jordan: Thatcher Visit

Any parties to a dispute ought to be parties to its resolution, thus opening the way for the PLO's participation in the peace process, King Husayn stressed during remarks broadcast by Amman television at a dinner for visiting British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Husayn also said peace negotiations should be held under the aegis of an international conference in which the five permanent members of the UN Security Council would participate along with parties to the dispute. He said these two principles have been "passed over or deliberately ignored," resulting in "unnecessary complication and waste of time." Noting "terror practices" by settlers and "fanatics" against Arabs, Husayn condemned Israeli occupation of the West Bank. Responding to the king's dinner remarks, Thatcher said the opportunity for peace in the Middle East must be grasped before the end of this year, and Britain is ready to help create the "right circumstances" for peaceful negotiations. Emphasizing that peace will not come through violence and terrorism, Thatcher said a "climate of greater confidence" is necessary so that all parties will be prepared to take some risks for peace. The prime minister called for a settlement which commands "overwhelming acceptance" because it is negotiated by "trusted representatives of all those involved."

Britain will supply Jordan with military equipment worth 270 million pounds, Amman radio reported, citing a memorandum signed 19 September in the presence of Thatcher and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i.

Earlier, Thatcher concluded her visit to Egypt and told MENA her talks with President Husni Mubarak were "useful, frank, and constructive." Reacting to Thatcher's remarks about the possible participation of certain PLO members in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Cairo radio said the prime minister has "spelled out her stand" to U.S. allies and obstacles raised by those who have "special interests in obstructing the peace process" are no longer justified. Meanwhile, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio castigated Thatcher for talking "ambiguously" about a settlement that will enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights.

Israel

The Alignment-Likud deadlock over the Tabah issue continued during the 18 September Inner Cabinet meeting, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the Likud ministers rejected the proposals on the issue worked out with Egyptian President Mubarak. The Likud ministers continue to insist on trying to solve the dispute through conciliation while the Alignment is supporting the proposal to try conciliation for a limited period and then submit the dispute to binding arbitration if conciliation fails, Jerusalem television said. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin subsequently told Jerusalem radio that he cannot foresee the Alignment remaining in the current government another 3 years if all chances of improving peace with Egypt or seeking peace possibilities along Israel's eastern front are frozen.

Israel has given the United States confidential information proving "beyond a shadow of doubt" that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is personally involved in planning terrorist attacks, according to Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi troops attacked and occupied three "extremely important" vantage points on Iraq's northeastern border the night of 17 September, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported. Meanwhile, IRNA reported that Iraqi planes and artillery bombarded Iranian border villages in the Bostan area 18 September. The Iranian ground forces commander warned Iraq in a statement cited by IRNA that Iran will retaliate if Iraq resumes its attacks on Iranian cities.

In Kuwait, the daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* commented on the recent landing in Israel of a U.S. cargo plane travelling from Iran to Spain, asserting that the incident points to a "tacit pact" among the United States, Iran, Israel, and Turkey, KUNA reported. Contending that the aircraft may be part of a "secret air bridge" to Iran, the paper said this "scandalous trip" has exposed the "dirty role" of the United States in the Gulf war.

Iran

A time bomb exploded near a bus terminal in western Tehran, killing a child and wounding 18 other people, IRNA disclosed.

GCC Interior Ministers Meeting

The GCC interior ministers affirmed their determination to collectively resist all threats to the security and stability of the region, based on the GCC's stand which considers any threat against any GCC state a threat against all, according to a press statement issued by the ministers and carried by SPA following their fourth meeting in Riyadh.

Lebanon

As fighting continued in Tripoli between gunmen of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party, security sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon estimated that the total number of casualties in the fighting since 15 September was 60 dead and over 250 wounded. Meanwhile, IDF radio reported ASL soldiers firing at and blowing up a booby-prapped car south of Tyre.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will visit Moscow "shortly," according to a KUNA report citing Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki's remarks to the London magazine *AL-TADAMUN*. Monitored Libyan and Soviet media have not been observed to announce such a visit.

Afghanistan

More than 2,000 rebels were "crushed" and their "satanic nests" were destroyed by DRA forces during recent operations in Khowst, Kabul radio announced.

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Karmal 14 Sep Speech to Border Tribes Assembly
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[Speech by DRA President Babrak Karmal to the Assembly of Border Tribes held in Kabul on 14 Sep — recorded]

[Text] In the name of Almighty God. Pashtun and Baluch brothers, and brother representatives of the border tribes and nationalities. We have gathered in Kabul City, the capital of our common and united homeland of Afghanistan, in accordance with the distinctive customs of our fathers and forefathers to hold a tribal assembly on our great national and patriotic issues, to make decisions, and to struggle for their implementation. [applause]

In the course of history and especially in recent centuries, militant, united, and equal Pashtun and Baluch brother tribes have fulfilled their great patriotic duties from the national historic point of view in defense of the homeland and in the struggle against aggressors. This glorious fact is known to all the world [applause] Despite this, we shall not for a moment forget the patriotic role played by all brother nationalities and tribes of the country in this regard. Once again, we annouce that we oppose any form of aggression on others' territory, and favoritism, hegemony, and domination by one particular nation, tribe, and clan on other nations, tribes, and clans. [applause]

Our policy in this respect is crystal clear. We wish all nationalities and tribes in Afghanistan to live in equality and brotherhood in our historic and united homeland, Afghanistan. [applause] In accordance with accepted Afghan and Pashtun customs and the tenets of Islam, we say: And to seek each other's council, we have gathered here to determine our sacred duty in determining the destiny of our homeland, Afghanistan, and especially that of the vast tribes and nationalities of the lower and upper Pashtun nation, and to find a path to the destruction of the treacherous anti-Afghan and anti-Pashtun enemies and establish peace in the homeland and security in its sacred borders.[applause]

In these auspicious, sensitive, and historic moments, we hold council with you accredited representatives and leaders of the border Pashtuns, Baluchis, and Nurestanis, you who have always possessed tribal rights and freedoms. [applause]

In these happy moments when for the first time in our country's history the assembly of border tribes is held for fraternal consultations in a totally free and democratic atmosphere in accordance with glorious anscestorial customs and Islamic justice in the capital city of our free and proud homeland, Afghanistan, we sincerely welcome all nationalities and tribes of the country --Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Baluchis, Uzbeks, Turkmens, Nurestanis, Pasha'is, and others -- and bring the good tidings that we are entering a new stage of the development, evolution, and maturity of free, modern, and revolutionary Afghanistan. [applause]

I announce openly that the right of self-determination for Afghans in general and for the Pashtun nation in particular, regardless of where they live, cannot be considered a separate issue from that of our common and united homeland, Afghanistan. [applause]

The entire history of our homeland is the history of patriotic and sacred struggle against oppression and slavery and for freedom and independence.[applause] Today, we remember with profound gratitude the heroism of our fathers and ancestors in their struggle for liberation against various enemies, foremost the foreign colonialists. [applause]

Our proud fathers and ancestors defended with enormous sacrifices their sacred territory, Afghanistan, and left it for us. [Applause] Whenever our country was faced with threats, the self-sacrificing sons of our homeland rose up and together with the border Pashtun tribes, who were in the front line of the national uprising, defended the honor of the homeland against foreign aggressors and imperialists.[applause] It has been like this; it is this way; and we fully beleive that it will be like this in the future. [applause]

All generations of Afghanistan remember these golden pages in our country's history and bow their heads to the bloodstained bannersand to the martyrs of the path of the country's freedom. The assemblies of the accredited leaders and elders of the tribes and nationalities have always been a manifestation of the unity and solidarity of the patriotic tribes. These were the assemblies which led and made decisions during the years of the great national and patriotic war. [applause] It was during these assemblies and just wars that Pir Roshan, Khoshhal Khatat, Mirwai's Nika, great Ahmad Shah, Imal Khan, Omar Khan, Soltan and Amanollah Khan, and hundreds of other great national personalities rose to prominence. [applause] The people of Afghanistan trained them in this historic national school, united them, and showed them the path of struggle for freedom. [applause]

Struggle for independence and national resurgence and the broadening and maturing of this struggle to the level of an anti-imperialist struggle are reflective of the progressive movement of Afghan society. Victory in just struggles against occupiers, aggressors,and colonialists has been our path-opener toward a bright and great future. [applause]

In this area, the formation of the PDPA is counted as a great historical event in the course of the independent and progressive development of our homeland. Our party is the rightful and sincere inheritor of the true Afghan mujahidin of the path of national freedom and democracy, i.e., the sovereignty of the people. From the day of its formation, the PDPA has consistently struggled for peace and security at home and in the world, freedom of the people, national sovereignty, progress and social justice, national unity, and the equality of all people of Afghanistan. The struggle of our party is the manifestation of the demands and centuries-long aspirations of all toiling Muslim people of Afghanistan. The members of our party are the aware and patriotic sons of the Afghans. Life has proved that the party is with the homeland and after the victory of the national democratic April Revolution, the party ranks have increased ninefold and have been transformed into a great progressive political organization of the Islamic world.[applause] Presently, more than 140,000 people are members of the party. This matter is particularly important in that the PDPA has made very effort

toward the consoliation of fraternal unity and the true unity of the peoples and the equality of rights of all the tribes and nationalities of the country and their mobilization in one steel-like front against the oppression and persecution of the feudal-monarchy regime. Our party has never forgotten the sacred struggle of the people toward determining their destiny. [Applause]

After the overthrow of the monarchy, reactionary ruling circles, fearful of the further broadening of the democratic movement, i.e., a movement for the consolidation of the people's rule, embarked on conspiracies and intrigues in collaboration with the darkest reactionary forces of the region, the militarist and oppressive regime of Pakistan, and the reaction of the Kingdom of Iran in order to safeguard the exploitive and oppressive feudalist system. Under the banner of dark reaction, they tried to sell our country. They wanted to treacherously engage in such a deal, like in the past whena part of our sacred land was left in the hands of the British colonialist and their inheritors. No patriotic Afghan, and in particular, no Pashtun would forget that historical national treason. [applause] Is it so or not?[applause]

The wrath and indignation of the people reached its explosive level against the individual despotism of Daud who, fearful of the people's movement, began to engage in conspiracy in unison with imperialism and reaction of the region and committed treason against the interests and honor of the homeland and the freedom movement on the part of Pashtuns and Baluchis.

As a result of the victory of the April Revolution, the DRA state, i.e., the national democratic rule and independence of the toiling and Muslim people of Afghanistan, including the workers, peasants, artisans, nomads, intellectual and other toilers; all national, democratic and patriotic forces; and all nationalities and tribes of our united common homeland. The noble toiling people of Afghanistan, under the leadership of the PDPA, have chosen their economic, social, and cultural path and the path of the construction of a new progressive Afghan society on the basis of the principles of justice, equality, and fraternity.[applause] The most important revolutionary aims and tasks have been formulated in the fundamental documents of the party and state, i.e., in the documents of the PDPA and in the basic principles of the DRA.

However, from the very beginning the April revolution came face to face with a series of obstacles. First, our revolution was obliged to solve a broader series of problems in comparison to other countries. And, in addition, all economic, social, and cultural tasks of our revolution ought to have been implemented under special conditions in accordance with the peculiarities of Afghan society, and under the conditions of special religious, national, tribal, and dozens of other internal and external questions.

Second, international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, heretic China, regional reaction, and the internal enemies of revolution decided to savagely create obstacles on the path of the realization of the formulated tasks by the party. They began armed intervention in the internal affaris of Afghanistan.

Third, the growth of the April Revolution was not balanced. In addition to the problems that had been left as a legacy to the country from past regimes, acute mistakes and unforgivable deviations occurred at the beginning of the revolution in connection with important political, social, and economic changes. Incorrect treatment was adopted in connection with various strata of the people and national and social questions of all nationalities and tribes, in particular with the Pashtun tribes, the responsibility of which rests with Hafizollah Amin and his Afghan-enemy band. During his dark rule, the most outstanding leaders and members of the party were either exiled, jailed, or murdered. Our innocent compatriots were mercilessly and harshly treated, mercilessly killed under various pretexts, insulted, or obliged to leave their home and homeland and thus chose a life of sorrow in foreign countries.

Another dangerous threat had come about at that dark time which was bringing the independence and national sovereignty of Afghanistan toward annihilation. What should we have done underthose dangerous conditions when international imperialism, headed by American imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, the Pakistani militarist regime, and the reactionary circles of Iran, had intensified interference in our internal affairs and the destiny of our fatherland was at the abyss of annihilation and destruction?

Elders and representatives of the border Afghans and Pashtuns; I am addressing you about our actions when the existence or non-existence of our homeland and people was in question. Was it not necessary in such a historic moment in the life of the country to shoulder the great patriotic responsibility and then save the country from the danger of dismemberment and to strengthen theindependence and national unity of the country?

Every man who nurtures in his heart the sacred sentiment of love for the homeland, everyone in whose veins runs Afghan and Pashtun blood certainly answers these questions with the same answers we the loyal and principled members of the PDPA, the loyal sons of our fathers, gave before it was too late.[applause] We did not give any of our devilish internal and foreign enemies the opportunity to dismember our beloved homeland, to suppress our freedom and independence, and to defeat our revolution. [Applause]

On 6 Jadi 1358 [27 december 1979], progressive forces killed Hafizollah Amin, traitor enemy of our party and people, and removed this cancer from party and state, and thus rescued the party, homeland, and people from horrible and deadly evil. [Applause]

The victory of the new phase of the revolution which neutralized all ominous and treacherous designs of the enemies, provoked their hysteric wrath, and all our enemies stood against us as a black army of devils in a vast anti-Afghan and anti-Pashtun front. Theenemies, using the sacred religion of Islam as an wavering mask, deceived our working compatriots; drew some of them to the ranks of the counterrevolution; and compelled them to take up arms against their brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, and children. Thus, thedimensions of the undeclared war against our people, homeland, and revolution were further expanded.

Brothers, notwithstanding these threats, blackmail, and sabre-rattling, our revolution is alive, it is struggling and touches the

shores of a final and complete victory. [applause] The main and basic achievement of our revolution is the establishment of the people's revolutionary rule and the creation of a new political system loyal to and serving the people in which the PDPA plays a leading and organizing role.[applause] In addition, the party, the new political system, is based on the pillars of the National Fatherland Front [NFF]. The NFF consisted of all patriotic individuals of the country, the members of theDemocratic Youth of Afghanistan [DYOA], trade unions, and other social organizations. The main NFF task is to maintain new and just relations among the working people. We need good understanding and cooperation on the basis of our common history and links to our united and common homeland. The homeland is in need of the unity and monolithic cohesion of compatriots who are interested in the progress of the homeland and in the bright and prosperous future of their own and that of their children. It is precisely for achieving these objectives that the NFF was established as a reputable organ of sociopolitical support of the policy of the party and revolutionary state.

We have resolved that all patriotic classes and strata of Afghan society be NFF members. We are convinced that the noble elders, honorable and noble personalities of tribes and nationalities of border Pushtuns, Baluchis, and Nurestanis; the honorable and respected Mullahs and clergymen, i.e., the best citizens of our homeland, should be represented in the NFF. [applause]

The people's rule can be realized and strengthened all over the country through the NFF.

Honorable compatriots, our enemies strive to damage our economy. Despite this, our proud working people have achieved good results with their peaceful work. The national economy is gradually being organized, the public sector, particularly in the fields of industry, energy, and transport, is being consolidated. More than 100 new economic projects have been constructed in the country with the cooperation of the Soviet Union and other friendly socialist countries. [applause] The private sector has a major role to play in the national economy. Cooperation is maintained with traders, small capital holders, and artisans, and different assistance is rendered to the joint economic sector. The party and the state have adopted concrete measures for the development of agriculture. In the course of the post-revolutionary years, 320,000 peasants became the owners of 3.5 million jeribs [700,000 hectares] of land.

Workers wages have increased in the course of recent years. The DRA has undertaken the solution of vital problems, such as education, building of residential apartments, hospitals, polyclinics, and kindergartens, and other basic and vital issues. With full satisfaction, I inform you respected elders that during the past 5 years, the revolutionary power and the state of the DRA have spent billions of afghanis for the development of the economy and culture of tribes and nationalities. [applause] The revolutionary power led by the PDPA, persistently pays special attention to the growth of national cultures of the fraternal nationalities.

Respected elders, I want to ask you a question. Have you seen in your iifetime such great transformations in such a short span of time? Don't all these conform with the interests of tribes and clans and your demands and hopes?

Anwering us, the vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, who is working under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, will present a brief report on the progress and activity of the DRA Government after the revolution in the economic, social, and cultural fields as well as on what measures have been adopted for the growth of industry and electrical energy, agriculture, and the flourishing and blossoming of the culture. Aren't the initial stages of all these projects, despite the continuation of subversions by the armed counterrevolution exported from abroad, compatible with the interests, demands, and aspirations of tribes and nationalities, and all afghan compatriots? You, say yes. [audience replies yes].

This is a matter of pride for all of us and all the achievements are the product of our common and hard work. [applause]

We could achieve even greater successes in the fields of industry, transport, energy, agriculture, construction, and trade as well as in the sphere of the development of education. What prevents us? It is first of all the aggression by the imperialist circles and by the servant of U.S. imperialism, General Zia, which is carried out through the internal counterrevolution. Those who plunder the last loaf of bread from the hands of starving children of our homeland; those who mercilessly kill your mothers, dishonor the honorable Afghan women, shamelessly kidnap them; and those who detonate factories, burn your mosques and houses, and suppress the freedom of border tribes and nationalities by the rebels and the military force.

How long can the prideful and free-born border Pushtun tribes and nationalities and all other Afghan people tolerate this aggression and pressure? The Grand Assembly of Tribes should give a decisive answer to this urgent and imperative question and should defend their dignity with valor and heroism. [applause]

Dear brothers, neither amirs, kings, nor Daud were able to solve the urgent and vital problems of the free life of border tribes and nationalities. On the contrary, they submitted a part of the homeland to the British and used to sow and aggravate discord and enmity among tribes and pit one against another and against the central power. This resulted in the interests of monarchical reaction, British colonialists, and that of their inheritors, the military circles of Pakistan. Today too, billions of U.S. dollars are being spent for the same end, that is, the broadening of contradictions and the sowing of discord among tribes and nationalities, for the killing of Pashtuns and Afghans, for war and disunity, and for the dismemberment of Afghanistan.

You have become confident through your own experience that only after the victory of the April Revolution, particularly its new evolutionary phase, have proper conditions been provided for the solution of the fundamental problems of border tribes. The party wants to root out the national, ethnic, and tribal inequalities, inherited from the past reactionary regimes, and to create necessary conditions for the ensuring unity of tribes and nationalities in accordance with the principles of rights and freedom and with the participation of all in building and administering a prosperous

and democratic society. The approach of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Government toward tribes and nationalities has been enshrined in the fundamental documents, that is, the fundamental principles of the DRA, PDPA program of action, documents of the historic Grand Assembly of the Afghan people, decrees and resolutions of the party and the state.

According to these important documents, keeping in view the customs, traditions, and history and on the basis of the principled policy of the party and the state, tribes and nationalities enjoy the full right of freedom and self-administration without the framework of the state, the leading role of which belongs to the party. [applause]

Only the PDPA and the popular DRA state can ensure and guarantee the freedom and traditional and democratic self-administration of border tribes and nationalities. [applause]

We expect the representatives of local assembly tribes and nationalities to preserve their close cooperation with the state power in the provinces and in Kabul to the Revolutionary Council level. Only thus can a modern system of mutual relations be installed between the Revolutionary Council and tribes and nationalities.

This will turn another brilliant page in the all-out activities at the DRA Revolutionary Council.[applause] I would like to once again stress that only and only the PDPA and the popular state can ensure and guarantee freedom and self-administration for the tribes and nationalities. [applause]

What is self-administration? First of all, it means independent solutions to problems in their own life through local assemblies. Similarly, self-administration is the participation of tribes and nationalities in the growth of economy, trade, and national economic complexes in upgrading the level of their own welfare and prosperity; respect for and observance of the sacred religion of Islam, national customs, and traditions; and safeguarding pride and honor and the development of the national culture of every tribe and nationality. These are all self-determination.[applause] Do you agree or not?

We are happy because such a policy further strengthens our unity in solving most important problems of national and social life, and in defending the independence and freedom of our historic homeland, the new, revolutionary, free, and progressive Afghanistan. [applause]

After the new phase of the April Revolution, all of you became convinced of the fact that the PDPA and the Revolutionary Council of the DRA have always extended support, and will do so, to the tribesmen who are the brothers of our historic country.[applause] The state appreciates and is informed about the necessary extent of the endeavors you exert in tribal areas for the sake of peace, fraternity, and tranquility as well as your sacrifices on this path. It is of supreme value that you laboriously work for safeguarding the sacred borders of our beloved coutnry. I specifically stress the point that our truly democratic state decisively prevents the implementation of any policy aimed at disunity among the working people, and sowing seeds of discord, animosity, and national conflict among the tribes. [applause]

The state, the people, and all the truly patriotic masses condemn with deep indignation the vicious activities of those who don't honestly cooperate with the legal and revolutionary power. Such persons only give empty promises, covertly reconcile themselves with the enemies, and give preference to their personal interests above the objective national and tribal interests.

In this delicate moment for our country, there is only one criterion for patriotism and loyalty to the people and revolution, and that is to effectively guard our borders, to strongly prevent armed bands, to support the local organs of state power, and to ensure the security of all the inhabitants of our country. The present situation and prevailing conditions necessitate that these objectives and principles should be inscribed in the Constitution of the DRA. [applause]

Pious Muslim people of Afghanistan: According to the fundamental principles of the DRA, profound respect for the sacred religion of Islam has been stipulated in the laws of our state, [Applause] not only respect but also observation. After the victory of the new phase of the revolution, the High Council of Ulema and Clergy and the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment were established. [applause] The properties of holy places are safe and preserved.

Since 1362 [year ended 20 March 1984], the state has spent 1.25 billion afghanis for the repair and building of mosques and other holy places as well as for Haj pilgrimage subsidy. The amount is five times more than the sum spent on religious affairs over the past 50 years of the Nadir monarchical dynasty. [applause]

Distinguished elders: I can proclaim with pride and honor that the beliefs and prayers of every faithful Afghan Muslim and the sacred religion of all the people as a whole are under the protection of the peoples' state.[applause]

Esteemed brothers: The elections to the new organs of power, that is, the local organs of state power and administration which recently began in our country, have explicitly shown that all our people fully support the revolutionary program of the party and the revolutionary state. Thousands and thousands of the country's inhabitants voted in support of the new revolutionary power, the power of the people themselves. [applause]

One hundred twenty-five Pashtuns have been elected to the assemblies of municipal districts of Kabul City along with representatives of other nationalities.[applause] In Kabul Province, almost one-half of the total of 280 people's deputies are Pashtuns. [applause] Baluchis, Nuristanis, and other nationalities are also among the elected representatives. This is vivid testimony to the fact that the multinational and multitribal citizens of our beloved homeland warmly welcome the new organs of state power. This is also indicative of the fact that the policy of the party directed at ensuring the vast representation of tribes and clans in local assemblies is being implemented.

The distinctive traditions and customs of Pashtuns, that is, the traditions, customs, and freedoms of the proud Pashtun tribes

and nationalities, have seriously been taken into consideration in the new organs of state power. [applause] These customs and traditions which constituted the basis for the coming into being of the independent State of Afghanistan in the past, will continue and expand now as well. Assemblies of tribes and clans solved the most vital and important problems of the people throughout all history. And now we continue to expand, develop, and evolve these distinctive traditions.[applause] The distinctive traditions of assemblies have been accepted and reiterated as a custom by other fraternal and equal Afghan nationalities and tribes too. [Applause]

Now state power in revolutionary Afghanistan belongs to the local assemblies or the elected and prestigious councils of the people. This does not only belong to the Pashtun tribes today but now all citizens of the coutnry are democratically and progressively administered through those assemblies which are the continuation of the developed forms of traditions of the people's power.

Fraternal border area tribesmen: It is not the first day of your stay in the revolutionary City of Kabul. During the days of your stay, you have visited factories, schools, museums, military units, and other institutions of the capital. You talked to workers, students, and soldiers and attended gatherings. You have been convinced that the representatives of different nationalities and tribes from throughout the country work with equal rights, friendship and fraternity, and cooperate with each other shoulder to shoulder.

You became more aware of the great power of the armed forces. You walked in the streets and alleyways of Kabul City and saw with your own eyes that the ancient capital of all Afghans, Kabul City, is being expanded with every passing day. New, beautiful, and modern buildings are being constructed; residential buildings are being expanded; bazaars and shops of the city are full of different commodities; and trade is developing rapidly. Citizens wear appropriate clothing. The happy people manifest the cheerful spirit of Kabul residents who represent all nationalities, clans, and tribes from all over the country and people from all provinces. At the time of the elections, the whole of Kabul City, the capital ofAfghanistan, was decorated with flags, banners, posters, and beautiful flowers. Whoever was in Kabul in those happy days will never forget those joyful scenes and the cheerful faces. Such a state of affairs could also have existed in the border areas of the country if our enemies had not disturbed our security from beyond the borders. I would like once again to ask you, respected elders and trustworthy representatives of border tribes: How long can freedom-loving and proud Pashtuns tolerate injustice, poverty, backwardness, and the existence of the filthy enemies of Pashtuns and Afghans on the sacred soil of our ancestors?

Sincere Pashtun representatives: The freedom-loving patriots and militant poets and writers of the country throughout the centuries cherished the freedom, independence, and unity of tribes and of all Pashtuns in their historic homeland, Afghanistan. They fought side by side with their Afghan Brothers, including Tajiks, Hazaras, Baluchi, Uzbeks, Turkmens, Nurestanis, Pashais and others, and have unitedly defended their common single and historic homeland. [applause]

The Pashtun-inhabited areas and the valorous Pashtuns have fulfilled and are still fulfilling a great and significant role in Asia. These regions and their chivalrous inhabitants have never surrendered to the invaders and colonialists. [applause] They have been the reliable shield and the steeled trenches of our borders against foreign aggressions. [applause]

Without shielding, safeguarding, and consolidating the borders, and without offending the freedom and independence of the DRA, ensuring freedom for the Pashtun and Baluchi tribes and clans is impossible. History teaches us that it was the policy of divide and rule which subjected the Pashtuns and Baluchis to the domination of imperialism and reaction, and which disturbed their unity and freedom and brought them under suppression. Fraternal cohesion and unity is the guarantor of the socioeconomic growth and development of Pashtun and Baluchi tribes and clans. The unity of Pashtuns and Baluchis is also the guarantor of freedom, progress, unification, and national maturity for the Pashtuns and Baluchis. Unity and alliance vis-a-vis imperialism and reaction is the guarantor of prosperity and national and social progress for Pashtuns and Baluchis; the guarantor ensuring social justice and a new life for Pashtuns and Baluchis. The path of the long cherished aspirations of Afghans, that is the path of progress, prosperity, and independence, the path traversed by the April Revolution, is irreversible.[applause] We have been and still are victoriously following this path along with the fraternal people, nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country, and are forging ahead. [applause]

The Pashtuns, just as other noble Afghan nationalities, have a history of heroism. Today, we are paying great tribute to all Pashtun tribes, who have recorded golden pages in the history of the struggles of Afghan peoples for independence and freedom. [applause]

Heroic Baluchis and Nuristanis: We address you. Our nation is aware of your heroism and faithfulness to the fatherland which you have proved throughout history. The Revolutionary Council and the DRA State have accomplished many great tasks for you. We are ready to listen to your new proposals and render new practical assistanceto you. [applause] We support your democratically elected tribal assemblies. Meanwhile, new opportunities have been provided for the successful solution of all problems.

The only secure place for you is your motherland, revolutionary Afghanistan. We are all in need of peace, a lasting and durable peace. If mutual unity and solidarity among the Nuristani and Baluchi tribes is ensured and consolidated, they become a reliable and invincible shield and trench in defending the Afghan land. It would certainly contribute to a great extent to ensuring peace throughout the country. You should be fully confident that the well-being, prosperity, national and social liberty, and equality among Baluchis and Nuristanis would be practically guaranteed on the Afghan borders. [applause]

Free-born Afghan nomads: We address you.

The program for rendering assistance to you has already started. Deep-water wells will be drilled in your area; you will be provided with pastures, health services, and primary goods and materials. [applause]

On behalf of the revolutionary nation and people, we address you keeping in high esteem your heroic struggle. It is high time for action. [applause]

Defend the homeland and put an end to the aggressive war of imperialism and reaction. Make use of all your potential in the service of this sacred cause so that the borders of our state are strengthened, and peace, prosperity, and tranquility are established in our historic country. What the government can provide to tribes depends not only on resources, but also on all-sided cooperation, good will, and understanding, which must exist between the tribes and the government. [applause]

On behalf of the revolutionary State of the DRA, I declare that whatever concerns us — halting aggressions waged against our country, rendering practical aid to tribes, raising their living standards, respecting their special norms and traditions, and ensuring noninterference in their traditional and favourite affairs — will be accomplished. [applause]

In the new socioeconomic development plan of the DRA, huge sums have been allocated for the economic development of tribal areas. However, for materializing all these objectives it is necessary for the elders and the chiefs of tribes as well as the noble scholars and the clergy of tribes and the heroic armed youth of the tribes to also set certain tasks for themselves, as follows: [applause]

1. It is necessary that tribes jointly cooperate with the popular government in heroically defending the sacred Afghan land, and the freedom and independence of our beloved homeland, the DRA.

2. It is necessary that the tribes should not provide the possibility for their territory be used for arms traffic by miscreants, homicidal counterrevolutionary bands exported from abroad. The dignified tribes should never assist such ominous and anti-Islamic activities. They should not give any chance for subversive activities to be launched from their land against the revolutionary Islamic Afghanistan. They should render all-sided assistance to party and state organs, the armed forces, and above all, the border forces in their struggle against the exported enemies. [applause]

3. We expect the noble border tribes to help irrigation, medical, and agricultural experts and other professional employers in carrying out their activities. Similarly, the border tribes should cooperate in promoting trade and transportation and other activities of the DRA State launched to meet their sustenance, such as food, clothing, other material, and cultural requirements.

This is our program, our proposal, and we hope that this program and proposal will be accepted by you, the true patriots of border tribes, participating in this great assembly. [applause]

Brothers: The principles of our peaceful policy are clear to all the world. This policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, nonalignment, patriotism, and internationalism. We support international relations based on mutual respect, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, and consolidation of relations with all nations of the world. The DRA is a peace-loving country, actively defending peace, security, and detente in this region and the world, and is against all kinds of wars, either nuclear or nonnuclear.

Today, the DRA has diplomatic relations with almost 100 countries of the world. Our heroic people are proud of their friendship with our northern neighbor.[applause] This friendship is a legacy of our fathers and forefathers, and will be transferred from generation to generation in Afghanistan. Our ancestors advised us to be friends with the ones who maintain friendship in difficult moments.

The disinterested Afghan-Soviet friendship, which emanates from our prideful past and present common struggle, is of great and vital importance to our people.

Dear compatriots: Referring to present and past history, we can identify the friends and enemies of our people. Who were the ones who encroached upon Afghanistan and separated part of the Pashtun and Baluchis from the body of their fatherland; who were the ones who, after the independence of the country, launched plots against our beloved homeland?

The answer is clear, the British colonialist imperialists. Who desired to implement the plan to dismember our country and to liquidate Afghanistan's independence? U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonists, and the militarist circles of Pakistan and the reactionary ruling power in Iran, who are openly and formally perpetuating an anti-Afghan aggressive policy and who have vowed to invade Afghanistan.

On the other hand, who are the ones who rendered all kinds of disinterested assistance to our people in the most difficult and critical moments of our history, when the our country's existence was at stake? The Soviet Union. Who helped us in defending our freedom, national independence, and territorial intergrity? The Soviet Union. Who is pursuing a policy of goodneighborliness and friendly cooperation with Afghanistan? The Soviet Union. Who is supporting the freedom, national independence, and social progress of our homeland? Again, the Soviet Union.

In this case, to whom should we extend a hand of loyal friendship? Afghan patriots should profoundly think over the matter and realize its significance with their conscience. [Applause] We declare it with a loud voice: Toward the Soviet Union!

In such a critical moment when the existence of our homeland and revolution was at stake, the Soviet union, our sincere friend, responding to our request, dispatched its limited military contingents to the DRA.

On your behalf, distinguished and noble elders, and of all the people of Afghanistan, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and endless gratitude for the disinterested friendly Soviet assistance rendered to the Afghan people. [applause]

There is a Pashto saying: The moral brotherhood is stronger than brothers by kinship. But what can be stronger than moral brotherhood and brothers in kinship? The sincere friendship of we Afghans, that is, the unremitting friendship of the Afghan

people with the great people of the Soviet Union. Let every honest son of the motherland respond to friendship with friendship, and goodness with goodness. [applause]

Let the hues and cries of the propaganda which is aimed at misinterpreting the real nature of the Soviet assistance to Afghanistan ascend to the sky through their so-called voices and radios. We ask the Soviet Union not to request the return of its limited contingents while the U.S., British, and Chinese threat, as well as the danger of aggressive militarist reaction by Pakistan and Iran, exist against the freedom, independence, and territorial integrity of our country. [applause]

Only when a reliable guarantee is given and the interference and aggression ceases will the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union return to their country, when we will escort them to their country with gratitude. [applause] Therefore, [word indistinct] the devils; don't make hues and cries, nobody believes in your words. The life of lies is numbered. Nobody can cover the sun with two fingers. Your falsifications cannot hide the reality of the fraternal friendship existing between the two fraternal peoples. We do not allow any foreign force to interfere in our internal affairs, in affairs related to our freedom, independence and, territorial integrity. Afghanistan is a free, independent, Muslim, and nonaligned country.

Friends of revolutionary afghanistan are increasing in number throughout the world. We have firm friendly relations with the fraternal Arab peoples, all Muslims of the world, the progressive Arab countries, as well as other world nations. They have been fully supporting our liberating revolution, and are interested in the bright future of our country, which is the future of one of their fraternal countries. Today, from this forum, I would like to express my gratitude to all our friends for their solidarity with and support for the April Revolution and the people of Afghanistan. [appluase]. With hope, we notice that the fraternal peoples of Iran and Pakistan, more than before, are siding with the Afghan revolution with their militant support and defense. The toiling people of Pakistan and Iran can trust and count on the solidarity and support of the revolutionary people of Afghanistan. [applause]

However, regretfully the military regime of Pakistan and the reactionary ruling regime in Iran not only do not have friendly relations with us, but are bent on expanding and intensifying their hostile activities against the freedom-loving and heroic people of Afghanistan. Pakistan has become the center of undeclared war against our people. The criminal counterrevolutionary bands, which are directly armed and trained by the CIA and operate from Pakistan in our territory, bring death and destruction to our country. Today, Pakistan has been changed into a source of threat to the peace and security of the countries of the region. It is for this ominous goal that the U.S. central command encompasses the territory of Pakistan.

The United States and other imperialist countries are equipping the counterrevolutionary bands with various kinds of dreadful weapons, including chemical weapons, the total cost of which exceeds $1 billion.

Right now, over 150 military camps are orerative in the territory of Pakistan, Iran, and China for training counterrevolutionary bands. During the past year, the ruling circles of Iran have designed a special program against the people of Afghanistan, the final aim of which is the invasion of part of Afghanistan and its annexation to Iran. What can be said about such a ridiculous plan?

We do not blame the Iranian people. You, dear friends, are aware that the leadership of Iran has concocted this plan on the dictate of U.S. imperialism, and the Savakis. This is a plan from the time of the shah. However, we hope that at last the leadership of Iran, heeding to common sense and Islamic and international principles, take a rational position and stop acting under the pretext of Islam against Islam.

Our high assembly of tribes warns Pakistani adventurists that the devil is double crossed. U.S. imperialism has not only waged an armed operation against our country, but also carries out a psychological war against us. The enemy, through their broadcasts and false voices, have been waging deceptive propaganda against our country, and their propaganda machinery has become a weapon of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

The DRA, based onthe UN Charter, and in accordance with the principles of nonalignment and Islam, as well as on the principles of its foreign policy which has been enshrined in the basic documents of our party and state, has put forward constructive proposals for a political solution to the issues concerning Afghanistan. We are always ready to negotiate with good will. Now it is up to Iran and Pakistan to respond positively in this connection. Our point is clear: We want peace, security, noninterference, and nonaggression in the affairs of other countries. Justice and righteousness are on the side of the Afghans; therefore Ziaul Haq cannot sit with me at one table to talk. [Applause]

Esteemed elders of the border tribes of our ancestral homeland: The enemies are expanding the undeclared war in the areas where your tribes live. They have also tried to draw you into this filthy aggression. The enemies have doggedly been trying to sow seeds of discord among you, instigating one against another, trying to use you against your brothers. It is our expectation from you, tribal border elders, to realize that the enemies of the new Afghanistan are your enemies and the enemies of the Pushtans and Baluchi tribes in particular. The Pakistani militarists, who are incited and provoked by the diabolical U.S. imperialism, strive to encroach upon the freedom of tribes and to undermine their ancient traditions and customs. They try to occupy your areas. This is why the flames of anger and indignation against fraudulent enemies have flared up in the tribal regions. Your mountains and valleys are witness to grand assemblies in which death-to-aggressors decisions are made. The mountains and valleys of our country are witness to a holy war against mercenaries and their foreign masters.[applause]. This is a sacred jihad; a jihad by true Afghans, not by the servants of the English. [applause]

Prestigious leaders of the free-born border tribes: You are entrusted with the authority to fraternally strive, through tribal

assemblies, to lead deceived Afghan fugitives back to their homeland. To those who may not accept your assembly decisions, we are confident that you will expel them from the sacred vicinity of your territories, with Afghan bravery and courage.

Compatriots living abroad: Once again, we invite you not to forget your united and monolith homeland. Your separation from your fatherland must not be. Once again, I repeat: The doors of our common home are wide open to you. Return to your homeland and join us in the struggle for the welfare and prosperity of the Afghan people and for defending the gains of the April Revolution. It is not the promise-breaking orders of traitors, but the call of your hearts that must lead you back home. Those who return to the country with pure hearts are welcomed with pleasure, and will find their worthy place in society. With full responsibility, wepromise you that revolutionary and democratic Afghanistan, with all its material and moral might, is ready to respond to any of your calls for brotherhood or assistance. Revolutionary Afghansitan will respond in a national and Afghan manner to an Afghan call, not to the British, Americans, Chinese, Iranians, Pakistanis and their allies.[applause] Construct your home and the home of Afghans and Pushtuns with Afghan chivalry and with national and religious sacred traditions.

Pashtuns say: No voice comes out of one hand. Let us unite. Let the strong blows of our iron fists frighten our enemies. Let the clink of the sabers of truth and justice, the liberating sabers of Afghans, bring regional reaction, U.S. imperialism, Chinese expansionism, and their diabolical hirelings to their knees.

Brothers: From the mountains of Badakhshan to the borders of the east, south, and southwest, build an iron wall for the defense of your national honor and prestige, and for the defense of your homeland and revolution. Safeguard the legacy of your noble and valorous forefathers, and once again demonstrate the glories of your Afghan and Islamic sabers. The western borders of our country should also be an impassable barrier. So will it be. [applause]

Make your historical choice: Do not put your feet in two boats at the same time. Do not disperse: The enemy is very deceitful and sly. Let us unite in a single common trench, and only then, with God, will we clean all mountains, routes, valleys, villages, houses, and all corners of the country from the filth of the saboteurs, robbers, rebels, killers, and the exported terrorist bands. [Applause]

Dear compatriots: Why does your independent party and state pay special attention to our borders? Why do the leading organs of the party and state persistently assess the problems related to border regions and the Pashtun tribes? It is because the problem of borders is an extremely important question. It is the question of life and death of all Afghans and the tribes, clans, and nationalities. Internationally, the borders problem is of great importance. The strengthening of borders and their security reflects the independence and national sovereignty of Afghanistan. If the borders are not consolidated, there will exist no state. If the borders are not shielded and safeguarded, the enemy can peneterate them, threatening the stability and security of the country.

Having strong and secure borders is a prime necessity for improving the living standard of the peoples.

The issue of shielding our borders is an issue of peace and war. The penetration of the armed bands and the U.S. mercenaries into our country has extended the war. I think by now it is clear to all why the party, the Revolutionary Council, and the Govenrment of the DRA regard the shielding of the borders as an important issue. Unless the borders of the country are securely shielded and consolidated, the free-born people of Afghanistan and the border Pashtuns and Baluchis will not be able to tackle their socioeconomic, cultural, and national and social freedom problems successfully, or ensure a free and peaceful life.

Valorous Afghan border tribesmen: The key to the borders of our beloved Afghanistan is in your hands. Today too, you should express your credible commitments. Let it be known to all: The borders are open to our tribal Pashtun relatives as well as to all traders and nomads. [applause] Let it also be known to all that the borders of our country are closed to enemies, mercenaries, spies, saboteurs, criminals, and murderers. You should be convinced that our vigilant, powerful armed forces are with you and will foil the treacherous efforts of the enemies. You know that the border forces, which are successfully assisted by you tribesmen, are being reinforced. Right now, thousands of your youth are further strengthening them. Right now,thousands of your youth are sent by you to serve at the borders in the battalions of border militia and regional forces. Over 25,000 combatants are serving in the battalions of border militia and the units of local forces. It is a good start, but we have greater tasks ahead of us. The defense and consolidation of our common borders should be regarded as a sacred and patriotic task of all border tribes and clans of our united homeland. The free-born border tribes and clans should not permit mercenary and terrorist bands to be infiltrated among them and to disturb their life.

Dear brothers of Pashtun tribes: The PDPA has been trying, together with the people and through consultations with elders, to tackle the problems we encounter. All tribes, nationalities, and clans, regardless of their being Pashtun or other nationalities, tribes, or clans, are represented in the party, staff, and military leadership, that is, the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Revolutionary council.

Right in this hall, we see sons of all fraternal nationalities and tribes of the country, of the fraternal Pashtun border tribesmen, including the Bajawar, Momhand, Afaidi, Shinwary, the Khaybar Agency [as heard] Warokzai, Kirm Agency, northern Waziristan, southern Waziristan, all branches of Durani, Ghiljai, including Zadran, Mangal, Jaji, and so forth, Baluchi, Nurestani, and Pasha'irs. In short, the representatives of all tribes and clans of the eastern zone, the southeastern zone, the southern zone, and the southwestern zone hold high-ranking party, state, and military positions. See what a great number of deserved representatives of your tribes and clans are among the leadership of revolutionary power. A large number of our compatriots, the representatives of all border tribes and clans, are included in the composition of consultative assemblies, and participate in solving state problems. The assemblies are of great importance to us, and we will further promote their role and prestige. [applause]

Elders and tribal leaders of the country participated in the historic high assembly of the people of Afghanistan. The convocation of the high assembly dealt a strong and decisive blow to those who were levelling accusations against our revolutionary power and the victorious April Revolution.

The high assembly called on all our people to take an active part in the defense of the April Revolution and to selflessly struggle in the interest of the homeland. Let us support the call of the historic high assembly.

We, the participants of this assembly have a national, historic,and moral duty toward our homeland. Our great desire is to ensure peace, security, and tranquillity throughout the country. Today's assembly is a clear manifestation of the good will of our Afghan compatriots,. We are in need of peace, and we are eager to build and make our beloved, free, and prideful united homeland, Afghanistan, a prosperous country for free-born Muslim working people, as well as for coming generations.

Esteemed brothers: This assembly of tribes and clans is being held in the heart of our country, the revolutionary capital of the DRA, your beloved Kabul City. This city also has its own heart — Pashtunestan Square. The April Revolution started from this square and triumphed.[applause] I am sure that you have time and again seen this square and noticed how beautiful and glorious it is.

A bright and prideful flag flies in Pashtunestan Square. This flag is the manifestaiton of the unity and oneness of all Pashtun tribes and clans with the capital of the country, with the new revolutionary power, and with the state of the DRA. The shining sun of the new revolutionary Afghanistan, rising from behind the high mountains, is visible in that red flag hoisted in the heart of Kabul City.

Dear brothers of border tribes and clans: Pashtun and Baluchi brothers, unite. Wherever you live, defend the honor and dignity of the borders of your sacred land — the free, independent, and new revolutionary Afghanistan.[applause] Unity and cohesion are the guarantor of our freedom. Eternal and consolidated be friendship and fraternity among all nationalities, tribes, and clans. [applause]

Long live the free-born Afghan people [applause] consolidated by the unity and solidarity of Pashtun and Baluchi brothers! [Applause]

Long live the DRA!

Victorious be the high assembly of tribes! [applause]

Long live the April Revolution! [applause]

Karmal Concluding Speech at Tribal Assembly

LD181937 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Sep 85

[Concluding speech delivered by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council to the high assembly of tribes and nationalities held in Kabul on 14 September — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God Almighty.

Dear brothers of border tribes and nationalities:

The PDPA central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and theState of the DRA are of the conviction that, in comformity with the decisions and resolutions of the prestigious representatives of the Afghan people adopted in the historic high assembly, the high assembly of the tribes will fulfill in a noble manner its national, Islamic, and patriotic mission in defending, consolidating, and ensuring the security of the tribal border areas as well as the shielding of the borders against the miscreants exported from abroad. [applause] The vast border tribal areas of the DRA have always remained an invincible barrier against the aggressors.

These regions, through the centuries, have been and are areas of national resistance against oppressive and colonial invaders and aggressors who tried plunderously to enslave and wipe out our people. [applause] The valorous Bajawar, Nurestani, Momhand, Safi, Afaidi, Warakza'i, Shinwari, Kogiani, Tori, Jajay, Mangal, Zaderan, Salarza'i, Hotak, Tukhi, Taraki, Soleyman Khayl, Kharoti Wazir, Ahmadza'i, Masud and Kakar tribes, shoulder to shoulder with the valorous tribes of Barazka'i, Popalza'i, Nurza'i, Achekza'i, Aliza'i and Alekoza'i and tens of other border tribes, as militants and brothers-in-arms of other nationalities and tribes of the country, have safeguarded the dignity and pride and independence of Afghanistan, and have inflicted shattering blows on the enemies of the freedom and prosperity of our homeland. [applause] The tribal areas of our country have been, are, and will remain the invincible bastions of defense.[applause]

The inhabitants of the these areas have always emerged victorious and prideful from all historical ups and downs. The heroic noble tribes of Afghanistan have on several occasions defeated the British colonailists who encroached on the freedom of Afghanistan. The noble tribes have always preserved in their sacred homeland the tradition of Pashtunwali [pashtun culture], valor, heroism, honor, and Afghan and Islamic dignity, honesty, and loyalty to the people and the homeland and the high traditions of friendship and fraternity.[applause]

The people of Afghanistan, either in the days of armed uprising to regain the independence of the country, in the spheres of economic and technical assistance, during the postrevolutionary years, and also during the years after the april revolution, realized the real value and significance of Soviet friendship. We could extend our honest fraternal hand only to such a friend, which supports the freedom and independence of Afghanistan; stands against brutality, oppression, and exploitation of man by man; and defends the cause of peace and security in the region and the world at large.

Realizing this reality, our fathers and forefathers left for us a precious legacy of sincere friendship and brotherhood with the Soviet Union, something we will never underestimate. This fraternal firendship is based on equality, noninterference, and

mutual respect for the national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of each other. [applause]

Life has shown that the enemies of the April Revolution, these enemies of peace, freedom, progress, and the prosperity of our sons, are, under the dictate of foreign enemies, trying to undermine our freedom under the guise of false and satanic slogans of the so-called mujahidin so as to impose their ominous wills on us.

The memories of those heroic border tribesman and clans of Afghanistan who sacrificed their lives in the struggle against the bloodthirsty British colonailists, are still alive. The red banners are still flying on the graveyards of those heroes who were martyred in the sacred war of independence.[applause] But U.S. imperialism, renegade China, and their Pakistani and Iranian subservients are trying to suppress revolutionary Afghanistan and to suffocate our sacred struggle for peace, prosperity, and progress.

Our brave tribes should bear in mind that the nature of the plots and conspiracies hatched against our revolutionary country is the same as in old times. It is crystal clear to all today that U.S. imperialism is carrying forward the filthy objectives of the British colonialists, and is trying to suppress the freedom of the tribes as well as to impose war in their areas. The enemy is aiming to liquidate the national and historical unity of the Pashtun tribes.

This historic assembly and its historic decisions will prove that the ominous objectives of the enemies of Pashtun tribes are doomed to failure, and their devilish wishes will never materialize. [applause]

Justice is with us! The revolution is ours! Victory is our right! The land is ours! [applause]

This great right and our love for our sacred homeland and people puts a great responsibility on our shoulders to clasp hands even more strongly under the present revolutionary conditions.

The revolutionary process requires that all of us, with firm beliefs in victory, fraternal unity and equal rights of all nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country, should fearlessly forge ahead toward high peaks of peace, freedom, progress, and social justice. [applause] We never retreat. We will certainly achieve our great liberating aspirations. [applause]

In order to materialize the decisions of the high assembly of April 1985, it is deemed necessary to link the revolutionary efforts of the present revolutionary assembly with the patriotic activities of the Natioinal Fatherland Front [NFF].

The historical importance of the high tribal assembly of tribes lies in the fact that it dealt with the issue of defending our borders. The assembly, by giving a valorous and positive response to this question, elevated it to a new revolutionary level.[applause] The borders of Afghanistan are open to our Pashtun friends, relatives, tribes, and noble compatriots but will forever remain closed as invincible barriers. [applause]

The outstanding importance of the high assembly of border tribes also lies in the fact that it helps toward the unity of all the people among the Pashtun tribes and clans, and toward unity with Baluchs in all-round solidarity with the April Revolution, the PDPA, and fraternal and equal nationalities, tribes, and other people of the DRA, and thus serves toward the consolidation and strengthening of a new, heroic, courageous and revolutionary Afghanistan. [applause]

Brothers, allow me on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Government, and on my behalf to sincerely express gratitude for your great resolutions, your resolute support for the internal and external policy of our party and state, and your sincere wishes and warm feelings toward peace, freedom, and progress. [applause] It is a light-giving torch on the path of revolutionary struggle toward the prosperity of our sacred homeland. [applause]

Dear brothers, in a few days you will return to your homes. Inform your people and explain to them the truth of this assembly, the truth of the April Revolution, and the truth of our party and popular state. [applause] To let the people in every village and hamlet know about this is a pledge to our Pashtuwali.

This great high tribal assembly of Pashtun tribes — in the name of almighty God, and expectation to a great truth — this assembly will be a loyal, sacred oath of the revolutionary border tribes and people to the victorious April Revolution and the sovereignty of the people. This will be an oath of loyalty and sincerity to our beloved, prosperous, independent, and proud motherland, Afghanistan. [shouts and applause] We take an oath in this great and glorious assembly that we will defend the April Revolution and take it to final victory. [shouts and applause] We will maintain peace and security in our fatherland. [shouts and applause] We are building a proud homeland, where oppression, persecution, and exploitation will be eliminated by their very roots. [applause] We take oath that we will strengthen Afghan fraternity and equality; will strengthen peace, independence, democracy, freedom, progress and social justice; and will consolidate the unity and accord of the vast border tribes. [applause] We will deal a shattering blow to the enemy with a united steel-like fist. [applause] This is our oath.

Long live independent, heroic and revolutionary Afghanistan! [shouts]

Long live and eternal be the unity of all nationalities, tribes,and clans of Afghanistan! [shouts]

Long live the firm Afghan-Soviet friendship! [shouts]

May the high tribal assembly be victorious! [shouts]

May our free tribes and their just, liberating, and revolutionary aims be victorious. We rely on God's assistance. [shouts and applause]

Karmal Addresses Kabul Citizens' Rally
LD181002 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Hundreds of thousands of Kabul citizens today took part in one of the most magnificent rallies in the country's history in order to express support for the resolutions of the high assembly of the border tribes.

At this meeting, attended by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, the DRA party and government leaders, participants of the high assembly of border tribes, and Kabul citizens, with revolutionary spirit, expressed their resolute preparedness for the implementation of the historic decisions of the high assembly of border tribes.

The BIA and Radio Afghanistan correspondent reported that the rally's participants, while carrying the national flags, party banners, photos of our great and beloved national leaders, including Babrak Karmal, and hundreds of revolutionary slogans, were gathered with revolutionary order and discipline in the great square located in front of the Revolutionary Council and Pashtunistan Street, and expressed their enthusiastic feelings by chanting revolutionary slogans.

The representatives and chiefs of the tribes who took part in the high assembly of border tribes, took their position in orderly ranks in the street in front of the Revolutionary Council, and with expression of revolutionary enthusiastic feelings, they expressed their support in defense of the lofty objectives of the glorious April Revolution.

Babrak Karmal and the beloved leaders of Afghanistan's toilers, accompanied by high-ranking party and government officials, joined the ranks of the rally participants in the street located in front of the Revolutionary Council around 1000 hours and he was warmly welcomed by the guests and other toilers of Kabul.

The BIA and Radio Afghanistan reporters add that at the beginning of the meeting, Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the Central Council of the DRA National Fatherland Front [NFF], on behalf of the NFF, the largest social organization in the DRA, congratulated those attending the meeting and compatriots on the successful convocation of the high assembly of the border tribes, which concluded after making very important historic decisions. He spoke briefly about the historic importance of this glorious assembly. In part of his speech Abdorrahim Hatef said:

The high assembly of the border tribes in which the representatives of the courageous border people gathered, on one hand, was a thorn in the eyes of our enemies and on the other hand, [words indistinct] bloomed further the aspiration of construction and blossoming of the country.

I have the pleasure of mentioning again that the joining of the ranks of the NFF by the Central Council of the high assembly of the border tribes will make our front broader, stronger, and richer. In expressing gratitude, the high assembly of border tribes expressed its unreserved support for the timely assistance of our great friend, the Soviet Union, and for the continuation and increase of this assistance, and regarded them, under the present conditions, as a guarantor for Afghanistan's freedom.

The decisions of this glorious assembly, which are consistent with NFF aspirations, were approved by the collective and individual members of the front.

At the end of his talk, the chairman of the NFF Central Council asked the beloved and respected leader of Afghanistan's toilers, Babrak Karmal, the founder and initiator of the high assembly of border tribes, to deliver his valuable explanatory speech on the high assembly of the border tribes.

Babrak Karmal, in the midst of the audience's revolutionary enthusiasm, delivered his speech, which lasted more than an hour and was warmly welcomed by the audience.

In addressing the toiling citizens of Kabul, Karmal, in his contentful and directive talk, said:

First of all, allow me to express my sincere greetings, best wishes, and congratulations on behalf of the high assembly of border tribes, to you, the toilers of Kabul, which warmly and fraternally welcomed the representatives of the high tribal assembly. Karmal said: We can talk a lot about the glory and importance of the high tribal assembly. At the high assembly of tribes, great and important decisions were made which you have been informed about through the country's mass media.

On behalf of all of you, on behalf of the people of Afghanistan, on behalf of our heroic party, the PDPA, and the DRA Government, I declare to the world public that the national and historic decisions of the high tribal assembly of Afghanistan and all regions of Pashtun territory were like an iron and a crushing blow inflicted on the head of Afghanistan's enemies, on the head of the counterrevolutionaries, on the head of the region's reaction, and on the head of the Pakistani militarists, Iranian reaction, and U.S. imperialism. The high assembly of tribes, with one voice and with infallible unity, declared that Afghans and Pashtuns, by sacrifice of their lives, will defend to the end and to the last drop of their blood the freedom, independence, and territorial integrity of the DRA.

The high assembly of tribes completely affirmed and supported the whole action program, foreign and domestic policy, all revolutionary transformations, socioeconomic, cultural, and political programs of the country.

The high assembly of our courageous and brave tribes has declared to the world public that Afghan-Soviet friendship will be forever and durable, and unanimously declared that the interventionists and aggressors must keep their hand out of the sacred land of Afghans.

While each part of his talk was warmly welcomed with continuous applause and expression of enthusiastic feelings by Kabul citizens, Karmal said:

It should be mentioned explicitly that never an agreement has been made or will be made between the DRA Government, led by the PDPA, and the Soviet Union's Government, led by the

Leninist party, that the limited units of the Soviet Union remain permanently in Afghanistan.

The dispatch of these units took place formally and lawfully in accordance with the treaties and agreements between the Afghan and Soviet Governments and in accordance with the UN Charter, for the defense of the country's freedom and independence. We declare from the heart of the April Revolution that until all aggression and intervention against our country ceases -- once again I emphasize -- that the limited units of the Soviet Union will remain in Afghanistan for the defense of Afghanistan's freedom and independence, and consolidation of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity. When it is proved that the intervention and aggression against our country will not be repeated, the Soviet Union's limited units will return to their peace-loving homeland, the Soviet Union, with festivity, happiness, and presentations of flowers by the Afghan people.

Regarding the decisions of the high border assembly for the defense of freedom, independence, territorial integrity, national honor, and complete elimination and liquidation of the wicked and murderer bands exported from abroad into Afghan territory, Karmal said:

There is no doubt that our borders have been defended by the border tribes and nationalities. At present, we have such powerful armed forces under the leadership of the PDPA that the enemies canno longer carry out aggression against our country or manage to occupy our country.

The BIA and Radio Afghanistan correspondents add that this magnificent and glorious meeting ended around 1100 hours in the height of enthusiasm and revolutionary feelings of the audience.

'Successful' Operations Reported in Paktia Province

LD181741 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] As a result of the recent successful operations by the country's heroic and courageous armed forces in the Khowst major district, more than 2,000 counterrevolutionary elements with tens of ringleaders of these criminals, including deputy ringleaders of the Jalaluddin murderer band, Mowlawi Fatehollah and Mowlawi Ahmad Gul, were crushed and their seditious and satanic nests were destroyed.

As a result of these heroic operations by the courageous security forces, 140 DShK's with more than 1,000,000 [figure as heard] ammunition rounds, 40 reactive rocket [as heard] launchers, 3,500 reactive rockets, 50 antitank rocket launchers [as heard] with 1,000 rockets, 100 mortars with more than 3,500 antipersonnel mines, a large number of recoilless artillery weapons, ZK-1 machinguns with ammunition, and 20 clothing depots of the enemy were seized by the country's security forces.

According to another report, as a result of recent crushing blows by the country's security forces in the areas of of Yusof Kheyl and (Mer Kheyl) of Chamkani and (Haji Mydan) 66 sworn enemies of our working people were crushed, and 6 DShK's, a number of Chinese Mark-20's, and a large number of light weapons with one recoilless artillery weapon were seized from these criminals by the security forces.

Gandhi Campaigns in Punjab Behind Tight Security

HK181452 Hong Kong AFP in English 1353 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Amritsar, India, Sept 18 (AFP) — Authorities wove a tight web of security around Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi when made [as received] a second electioneering trip to the troubled northern Indian state of Punjab today. Mr Gandhi addressed three public meetings from behind bullet-proof glass screens.

His speeches were brief, not lasting more than 15 minutes each. They were devoted mainly to the agreement, intended to end an often violent Sikh campaign for greater autonomy, that the Sikh leader, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, signed in July.

The premier was flown from place to place in one of a flight of four helicopters. Only those authorised knew which particular aircraft he travelled in. The helicopters also carried heavily armed bodyguards and commandos.

At Jalandhar a crowd of about 10,000 turned out to hear Mr Gandhi speak, but for every two civilians in the crowd there was one paramilitary trooper, commando or armed policeman keeping a strict watch. Everybody who entered the open playground where Mr Gandhi spoke had to pass though an electronic detector. The premier also spoke at Pathankot and Muktsar today. Hindus outnumbered Sikhs at the meetings he addressed.

Mr Gandhi, who is also chairman of India's ruling Congress (I) Party, began campaigning in Punjab on Monday with a similar one-day tour of the state. Earlier, Indian press reports said that the premier would spend four days in all on similar visits to the state.

Polling to elect a new state legislative assembly and fill Punjab's 13 seats in the lower house of Parliament is to be held on September 25.

The election battle is mainly between the Congress (I) Party and the Sikh Akali Dal party's moderate faction, led by Mr Longowal's successor Surjit Singh Barnala. Mr Longowal was shot dead by two suspected Sikh militants on August 20.

Mr Gandhi told his audiences today that Mr Longowal and his mother — previous Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who was assassinated in October, allegedly by two Sikh bodyguards — had sacrificed their lives for the unity and integrity of India. He stressed that Punjab must not fall under the sway of Sikh militants.

Mr Gandhi also reminded his audiences of various special steps his government had taken recently to help develop Punjab. These included a proposal to build a dam on the Thein River and 350 million rupees (about 30 million dollars) in relief for the victims of recent monsoon floods.

Reportage on Visit of Nepalese King to Delhi

Banquet Toasts

BK190416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] India and Nepal have called for efforts to build an atmosphere of peace and stability in South Asia. The call came at a banquet hosted by President Giani Zail Singh in honor of the visiting King Birendra of Nepal last night. The two leaders hoped that the first summit between the leaders of the South Asian Regional Cooperation later this year at Dhaka will provide impetus to such efforts.

Giani Zail Singh pointed out that in the tension-filled world of today there is nothing more urgent than the need for peace and disarmament. As the current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, India is working hard to secure this goal. He said India is proud to be a significant partner in Nepal's economic development. It is ready to contribute further to the economic prosperity and growth of that country. Giani Zail Singh said India is determined to expand its contacts with the neighbors and initiatives have already been taken in this regard.

King Birendra in his reply said India has made a positive contribution to the economic development of Nepal. He said there has been a long and fruitful cooperation between the two countries and felt that it can be expanded further. King Birendra reiterated the proposal to declare Nepal a zone of peace and said this would bring about peace and stability in the region. He noted that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has sincerely been seeking to establish good relations with India's neighbors. This is indeed a welcome move and Nepal will respond well to it, he said.

Committees To Weed Out 'Unfit' Senior Officials

BK181615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The center has decided to set up permanent internal screening committees in various ministries and departments to weed out corrupt, ineffective or unfit officials who are above 50 or have completed 30 years of service. A separate screening committee will be constituted for each different rank and for each different functional area.

According to an official announcement in New Delhi today, premature retirement bears no stigma and has no civil consequences. Various ministries and departments have been advised to make it absolutely sure that the action taken under the provision is in public interest and not arbitrary or malafide. It has also been clarified that premature retirement is not to be used as a substitute for formal disciplinary proceedings to retire government servants on grounds of specific acts of misconduct.

President To Meet With Gandhi in New York

BK190626 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad this morning for New York to attend the 40th session of the UN General Assembly. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the foreign minister said that the debate on the Afghanistan problem will be of special significance to Pakistan. He said Pakistan hopes that the members of the General Assembly will once again express deep concern at the continued foreign intervention in Afghanistan and that Pakistan's resolution on the Afghanistan situation will receive the same overwhelming support as in previous years.

In reply to a question, he said the Indian prime minister will be in New York to attend this session and on that occasion, a meeting between President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Rajiv Gandhi has been arranged.

President, U.S. Official Discuss Regional Issues

BK190413 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] The U.S. under secretary of state for political affairs, Michael Armacost, and the special assistant to the U.S. President and senior director of the National Security Council, Donald Fortier, called on President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi yesterday. They conveyed President Reagan's message of goodwill to the president. During the meeting, matters of bilateral and regional concern, including prospects of a political settlement of the Afghanistan problem and other major developments in South Asia, were discussed.

Armacost said the American Administration is satisfied with the pace of development of relations between the two countries. He said he hopes that the current sale of arms to Pakistan and the economic assistance program will continue even after 1987. Official talks on a new agreement between Pakistan and the United States will begin soon to set up the amount of assistance required by Pakistan. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan was also present on the occasion. The president later hosted a dinner in honor of Armacost.

Earlier, the two American officials called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Islamabad and discussed with him matters of bilateral and regional concern. Armacost pointed to the identity of views existing between the two countries on most matters of international importance, especially on the Afghanistan situation. He congratulated the prime minister for restoring the democratic process in the country and wished him success in his efforts toward this end.

Afghan Protest of Border Violation Rejected

BK181557 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Pakistan has rejected a protest lodged yesterday by Kabul authorities that Pakistani armed militiamen attacked (Pasta Kersa) area of Khowst Province [as heard] on 6 September [date as heard]. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this evening and was told that Pakistan rejects the protest of Kabul authorities. He was told that such frequent baseless and fictitious allegations clearly reflect nothing but the fact that Kabul authorities are trying to put the blame and responsibility of incidents in Afghanistan on Pakistan.

Noorani Chides Kabul Remarks on Frontier Tribes

BK181721 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, told the National Assembly in Islamabad today that despite all its political maneuvering, the illegal puppet regime in Kabul has failed to win any acceptance amongst any segment of Afghan society during the past 5 and 1/2 years.

Speaking on an adjournment motion sought to be moved by Sheykh Rashid Ahmad, he said despite futile publicity exercises and state-managed political events, the writ of the Kabul regime hardly extends beyond a few heavily protected towns. The Pakhtoon and Baluch tribesmen of Pakistan will not be impressed by the paper jirgas [grand assemblies] of the Kabul regime. The mover did not press his motion following the statement by the minister of state for foreign affairs.

Minister Accuses DRA of Sheltering Kidnappers

NC181658 Paris AFP in English 1641 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 18 (AFP) — Interior Minister Aslam Khattak today accused Afghanistan of sheltering insurgents who kidnapped four Chinese geologists from Pakistan's Baluchistan Province last week.

The four were abducted from their work site last Friday by seven armed men travelling in a Datsun pickup, one mile away from Duki town in the Loralai District of Baluchistan, where a thermal power station is being built with Chinese assistance, officials here said. The Chinese, whose present whereabouts are not known, were identified as Liu Changyou, Li Changjing, Zhu Jinxiang and Li Jangong. The local press reportedly kept silent on the kidnap for 48 hours.

In his first comment on the affair, Mr. Khattak told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that local authorities had identified two suspected gangs but gave no further details. "It is highly regrettable that a foreign country should give asylum, against all international laws, to people who commit crime of this nature," he added.

Meanwhile, Interior Ministry sources said Baluchistan authorities had met the demands of tribesmen who kidnapped an Australian couple in their border province. Robert and Jenny Williamson were abducted with their Pakistani driver from a reafforestation project in Baluchistan and were taken to neighboring Afghanistan. The kidnappers, reportedly members of the Sassuli tribe, were demanding the release of their chief, who had been sentenced to seven years in jail by Pakistani

authorities for sheltering people wanted by police. It was not clear whether the chief, who has already served four years of his term, had been freed and whether the two Australians had been brought back to Pakistan. The Australians were recently in Afghanistan's Qandahar region from which they managed to send a message last month informing their families that they were alive. The Australian Embassy said the message was authentic.

Mr. Khattak described the kidnap of the Chinese as a "heinous crime" and recalled that Afghan authorities had given shelter to Pakistani dissidents who hijacked a domestic airliner to Kabul and Damascus in 1981.

Soviet Ambassador Calls For Economic Cooperation

GF171908 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 11 Sep 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Lahore, 10 Sep — The Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, has said that the Soviet Union is willing to provide Pakistan with every kind of economic aid. The Soviet ambassador was speaking today at a general meeting of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The ambassador said there are vast possibilities for expanding economic cooperation between the USSR and Pakistan. He said that the Soviet Union was already helping Pakistan economically.

In the past Soviet aid was given to Pakistan on a government to government basis. However, recently the Soviet Union had decided to aid the private sector of the economy as well. This policy aims at raising the standard of living of the common people, he said.

Ambassador Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov said the Soviet Union can help Pakistani industrialists in the area of metallurgy and energy production, which are essential to the economic independence of the country. The ambassador said that Soviet Union will continue importing textiles from Pakistan and is contemplating increasing such imports.

He said owing to certain political differences existing between the Soviet Union and Pakistan, the matter of economic cooperation between these two countries has not been fully exploited. However, the Soviet ambassador said, the Soviet Union wants to be a good neighbor to Pakistan.

MASHRIQ on 'Political Difficulties'

GF190758 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 14 Sep 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Economic Cooperation and Political Hurdles"]

[Text] In his address to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lahore, Mr 'Abdul-Rahman Vezirov, the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan stated that some political difficulties block the promotion of trade and economic cooperation with Pakistan. In any case, he hoped that the difficulties would be removed and that both countries would be able to expand bilateral relations like two good neighbors. He added that in the past, the Soviet Union used to cooperate in the economic and trade sectors only on official bases, but now it is busy cooperating with several countries in the private sector as well.

Cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union in trade and economic relations has grown gradually. We attach great importance to Soviet technical and economic cooperation, particularly with regard to the steel and industries and electric power. However, we believe that the political difficulties which block greater cooperation, referred to by the Soviet ambassador, refers to the differences in view points between the two countries over the Afghanistan question. As far as Pakistan is concerned, it has seldom allowed this sole difference to influence its relations with the Soviet Union. If the Soviet Union were also to follow the same policy, it would not let these differences of principle hinder the expansion of bilateral commercial and economic cooperation.

Unfortunately, the Soviet Union suffers from some mental fallacies on Pakistan's stand concerning the Afghanistan question. The Soviet Union believes that this question has been raised by Pakistan at the instigation of the United States and that it is Pakistan which supplies arms and military training to the Afghan freedom-seekers. Both of these assumptions by the Soviet Union are wrong. Pakistan's stand on the Afghanistan question is not due to any pressure from the United States. It is a stand on principle. It is not based on any hostility toward the Soviet Union. Despite Paksitan's moral sympathy with the Afghan mujahidin, it has openly refused to become an arms supply channel to them.

We believe that Soviet Union should also respect Pakistan's principled stand and promote cooperation with it as a nonaligned country. It is correct that in the past the Soviet Union used to abide by the policy of trade and economic cooperation on the official level only; but now that it has begun to cooperate with the private sector, we hope that relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union will grow and that the volume of trade will increase.

BANGLADESH

Foreign Minister Suffers 'Serious' Heart Attack

PM181421 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 15 Sep 85 p 20

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "Bangladesh Foreign Minister Now Out of Danger"]

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Minister Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury suffered a serious heart attack early on the morning before last. He was taken to the King Fahd military hospital in Jeddah.

'UKAZ contacted the minister to enquire about his health and learned that he is now out of danger and recovering well. He is expected to leave the hospital within 3 days.

It is worth noting here that the Bangladesh minister was accompanying President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, who is attending the Good Offices Committee meetings aimed at ending the Iraq-Iran war.

Chowdhury was taken to the intensive care unit at the hospital. According to the official Bangladesh spokesman, the Bangladesh president went along to the hospital to reassure himself about the minister's health.

NEPAL

Premier Terms Ties With India 'Very Sound'

BK170326 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The Nepalese prime minister, Mr Lokendra Bahadur Chand, has expressed confidence that the coming visit of King Birendra to India will further strengthen relations between the two countries.

In an interview with All India Radio correspondent Sushil Chopra, in Katmandu, he said that relations between the two countries are very sound and they are bound to improve as we have so much in common. Mr Chand expressed his country's sincere appreciation of India's keen interest in the economic development of Nepal.

SRI LANKA

Tamil Leaders Assure Observance of Cease-Fire

BK181603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] India has expressed the hope that assurances given by the Sri Lankan Government and the Eelam National Liberation Front [ENLF] regarding observance of cease-fire will be faithfully carried out. This is necessary to avoid further loss of life pending a formal cease-fire arrangement.

During its discussions with the ENLF leaders, the Indian Government has noted its desire to bring into force an efective cease-fire.

The Sri Lankan Government has already announced that it would observe the cease-fire.

The ENLF has assured India that so long as the Sri Lankan security forces and paramilitary forces, including home guards, do not carry out any operation against civilian population, refugee camps, and Tamil organizations, they on their part will not indulge in any hostile act.

Food Commissioner Says No Shortage in Tamil Areas

BK181145 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The commissioner of food says that there is no shortage in the supply of essential items to the north and east. Mr (Graham Dissanayake), addressing a news conference in Colombo yes terday, announced that adequate stocks of rice, flour, and sugar are available in every district in these provinces.

Stocks of food have been transported weekly by the coastal shipping service. Last week,a shipment of flour was sent from Trincomalee to Jaffna.

Mr (Dissanayake) pointed out that more stocks of food could be transported when the train services return to normal.

Army Rescues Tamils; Indian Trawler Stopped

BK181149 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The army rescued five of the six Tamils who had been hung up by terrorists on lamp post near the magistrate court Mannar in the early hours of this morning.

The national news agency, LANKAPUWATH, told SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] that one of the victims had been shot dead by the terrorists before the army arrived.

Meanwhile, a fishing trawler was stopped when it was fired across the (?bows) of the ship. It was found to be of Indian origin.

One of the five crewmen had sustained injuries and was treated at the army camp in Jaffna. He was later brought to Colombo for further treatment.

'Time Bomb' in W. Tehran Kills 1, Injures 18

LD190633 Tehran IRNA in English 0629 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 19, IRNA — A time-bomb went off in west of Tehran at 06:35 (03:05 GMT) Thursday, killing a three-year-old child and injuring 18 others, two in critical condition. The bomb had been planted in a sack beside the warehouse of the cooperative No. 9 of the bus terminal for western part of Tehran. Police sources said that the bomb contained 15 pounds of explosives and added that since it exploded in a crowded area, it caused casualties.

IRNA Notes New U.S. Ambassador to Iraq

LD171541 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — George Newton, a new U.S. ambassador to Baghdad and the first in 16 years, handed his credentials to Saddam Tuesday, said Iraq's state-owned radio today.

Iraq cut diplomatic ties with the United States after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, but has been gradually tilting towards Washington after its military setbacks in the nearly five-year-war with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The "Voice oF Iraq" monitored in Tehran said a number of senior Iraqi officials, among them the foreign minister, Tariq 'Aziz were present in the meeting.

IRNA on U.S.-Iraq Ties

LD181801 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 18 Sep 85

["Saddam-Reagan Building Overt Relations Against Iran" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — Relations between Iraq and the United States nave entered a new stage after the new U.S. ambassador to Baghdad handed his credentials to Saddam Husayn on Tuesday. In reality this relation had been going on discreetly since the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran, but due to Soviet support for Iraq, the Baghdad regime prefered not to disclose this tie.

On the other hand, American cooperation in some Iraqi industrial projects, and U.S. military help, as well as the hope to use Iraq as a strategic base after the fall of the deposed shah, made Washington anxious that Iraq take a clear stance towards U.S. interests.

Relations between the two countries were cut after the 1967 bloody purges of the right wing of the Ba'th Party. Iraq was pretending that the cut was because of its support for the Palestinian cause and its enimity with the Zionist regime. Meanwhile the anti-Zionists fronts, such as the steadfastness front, were formed with Iraq claiming leadership of the movements.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran and the fall of the shah as the U.S. supported gendarme of the region, ties between Iraq and the United States reached a new stage. Washington led the Iraqis to believe that the post-war Iran was unable to maintain its sovereignty and that Iraq make good use of the opportunity for its aggressive plans.

Today, the post-war events leave no doubt that the United States had assured Saddam of victory and had also given assurance of economic, military and political support to Iraq.

Although Washington kept its promise the powerful waves of the Islamic Revolution surmounted the hurdle of war and thwarted the conspiracy of the international arrogance.

Relations between the United States and Iraq then surfaced in disguised form such as that of an American trade office in Baghdad, and an Iraqi head office in Washington, and later the creation of a U.S. intelligence service in Baghdad. Later the United States said it no longer held Iraq to be a terrorist country and gradually Iraq turned into a friend of the United States.

The head of the U.S. intelligence office in Baghdad later revealed that this service had been active in Iraq since 1976 when the Baghdad regime claimed to have been a supporter of anti-Zionist fronts and was on the U.S. list of terrorists.

Later on Iraq resumed its oil shipments to the United States, amounting to Dollars 129.3 million in 1984, and imported agricultural products with the United States an estimated value of dollar 530 million.

Washington believes Saddam to be a devoted supporter who would serve his American boss to the point of destroying his own country.

Ba'thists who see their existence tied to the region's reactionaries such as Jordan's King Husayn or Morocco's King Hassan and Egyptian President Mubarak see no alternative but to serve the United States.

In reality the United States is strengthening its anti-Islamic security belt by gradually eating up Iraq. But Saddam has not learned from the fate of his colleagues: the deposed shah and Al-Sadat.

Mr Newton, who according to the Iraq's state-owned radio, handed his credentials to Saddam on Tuesday has been the head of the U.S. interest section in Baghdad since last June.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meets With IRGC Commander

LD171551 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), Mohsen Reza'i met with Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Tuesday. At the meeting Hashemi-Rafsanjani was briefed on the operation of the Iranian Muslim combatants in their struggle against the global arrogance.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting here Tuesday Reza'i was received by the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeyni.

Reportage on 18 Sep Cabinet Session

Air Force Chief on Bombings in Iraq

LD181706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] During today's cabinet session the regulations defining the duties of the Ministries of Industries and Construction Jihad concerning rural industries were approved. Also during this session Air Force Commander Colonel Seddiq presented a report on the recent operations of the Air Force, describing how Air Force pilots bombed an oil complex 250 km deep inside Iraqi territory.

Musavi Lauds Recent Successes

LD182009 Tehran IRNA in English 1945 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — Iran's Cabinet in its Wednesday meet reviewed political developments in the country and in the region as well as the imam's recent order to IRGC commander for establishing Navy, Air Force and ground divisions within the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Referring to the order, Premier Musavi said at the session that the imam's order entrusts special duties to the Cabinet, noting that the Army personnel will certainly offer their best cooperation in this regard. The premier also lauded the bravery of the Army personnel and praised them for defending the country's frontiers.

Kharrazi Warns Kuwait Against Assisting Iraq

LD181908 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18 IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran Wednesday warned Iraq against resuming the war of the cities and called on Kuwait to keep away from the conflict.

The head of the War Information Headquarters, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, told newsmen in Tehran that reports on the possible resumption of the war of the cities was a "psychological war tactic that the enemy was using to weaken the morale" of Iran's Muslim people.

He said Iraq might be interested in starting attacks on residential areas but that "it should know that we shall react by using all available means". Iraqi gunners shelled Piranshahr in west Iran Sunday causing injuries to civilians and damaging houses.

But, Kharrazi said, Iraqi raids would backfire on Baghdad and increase popular war resistance in Iran as in the Al-Quds demonstrations early this summer when people in a massive turn-out demonstrated their support for the war effort.

With an express reference to Kuwait Kharrazi said Iran cannot keep silent on efforts by others to strengthen its enemy in the five-year war. Relations between Iran and Kuwait have been strained because of Kuwait's pro-Iraqi policy allowing Iraq to use Kuwaiti transport facilities.

Kharrazi said, "Any state which should help our enemy by giving it shipping and port facilities or allow it [to] use transport facilities in another country has participated in the war with us and should not, therefore, count on us as being a friendly country."

Kharrazi blamed Iraq for this year's bomb explosions in Kuwait and said Baghdad was trying to create tension and terror in the region. "Had it not been for Iran, Iraq would have long since devoured Kuwait with its (Iraq's) territorial claims... and threatened the whole region", Kharrazi noted.

The head of the War Information Headquarters said foreign diplomats did not hide their fear of Saddam when speaking privately.

On Iran's newspaper articles on Kuwait, Kharrazi said they reflect the views of their writers who are free to write within the constitutional framework. "They may be in agreement with the views of government officials or otherwise", he added.

He reiterated that the Islamic Republic has repeatedly asked governments of the region to keep aloof of the Iraq-Iran war.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Criticizes Alliance

GF151212 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 26 Aug 85 p 10

[Excerpts] We read in the news that five Iranian brothers residing in Kuwait, who had been living for some time in the Kuwaiti regime's torture chambers and jails, were martyred in prison as a result of beatings and torture delivered by this regime's security officials.

The news report is short, but it speaks of a horrifying crime, a crime that is perpetrated only by corrupt regimes such as the regime of murderers under the leadership of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The dark relations between the oppressive and bloody regime of Kuwait and the Muslim Iranians in that country are actually a direct result of the animosity of the puppet rulers of the Arab regimes with the Islamic revolution on the one hand, and on the other, the blind dependence and faith of the Kuwaiti shaykhs with the criminal Ba'thist regime. The pressures, beatings, illegal arrests, and torture handed out by the murderers of Kuwait against Iranian Muslims and other Muslims is also within the same framework of animosities and blind dependence.

Relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Kuwait are not separate from those of Iran and other puppet Arab regimes in the Persian Gulf.

The beating and torture of Iranian residents in Kuwait, harassment of Iranian pilgrims at the hajj and the police state behavior toward them in the house of the Lord, the vengeance of the Omani monarchy against Iranians residing in that country, and Oman's adventurism in the Strait of Hormuz -- all these have one aim. In reality, these policies are different links in a unified chain. This chain is created for the purpose of defending the

illegitimate interests of the Western world and for the purpose of crushing liberation movements in the Persian Gulf area.

The noisy creation of the GCC after the start of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980 was the first step toward political and military unity among the six nations to the south of the Persian Gulf. The organized and continued economic help of the shaykhdoms in the Persian Gulf for the decrepit government of Baghdad, which has now gone over $40 billion, the joint military maneuvers of these regimes and their arms imports, and the continued attacks of these nations' mass media and newspapers against the Islamic Republic of Iran all show this unified effort and a dangerous mission in Arab Middle Eastern nations.

But the Kuwaiti foreign policy has unique qualities and matters other than those declared by the GCC have an impact on this policy.

The lust toward Kuwait by the various rulers of Baghdad over the years has surfaced in many ways. This includes acts of terrorism, bombings, sabotage, and the creation of an insecure atmosphere. The governments of Iraq throughout the years have always tried to convey the fact that Kuwait's security is dependent on that country's neighborly relations with Iraq and that only Iraq can safeguard the security of Kuwait. Iraq has always made it clear that any threat toward Iraq's sovereignty would sooner or later affect Kuwait as well.

After Saudi Arabia, Kuwait is the second biggest supplier of the Iraqi regime's financial needs. At present, 30 percent of the total GCC financial aid to Iraq is supplied by the Kuwaiti Government. From the end of 1983 until now, the two regimes of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have sent one-half million barrels of oil a day from their own refineries to Japan, the United States, and France on behalf of Iraq. In this way, they have played their role as servants to Iraq to keep that country's financial situation normal.

In the imposed war, the Government of Kuwait has given the most logistical and transportation help to the Iraqis. From the beginning of the imposed war, the port of Al-'Ahmadi which is the closest Kuwaiti port to Iraq, has been at the disposal of the Ba'thists. The necessary goods for Iraq sent by other countries to the Persian Gulf arrive at this port and from there are transported by truck to various Iraqi towns.

Now more than ever, it seems that the Kuwaiti authorities have tasted the bitterness of the disastrous results of their dependence on Iraq. They have witnessed the unpleasant results of this dependence on their economy, but the long-term control of their affairs by the West and the creeping control of the Ba'thist regime into the Kuwaiti Government have still not given them the opportunity to sit and think about truth and right and wrong. All the animosity of the Kuwaiti Government against the Islamic Republic from the start of the war to the present time is also affected by these oppressive policies.

Kuwaiti newspapers, radio, and television in accordance with this policy have followed the warmongering attitudes of the Ba'th Party, creating a fertile field for the actions of the Iraqi regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Most of the Iraqis' false military communiques have been published in full in Kuwait's mass media.

The false rumors disseminated by the United States and its servants in the region to confront the Islamic revolution have been quoted in full in Kuwaiti publications. This vengeful attitude continues today.

The ludicrous rumor of Iran's relations with Israel, the totally false rumor of the execution of Iraqi POW's in Iranian camps and dozens of other cases -- which have been made up by sick Western minds -- were disseminated to put pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran and have been published in the press of puppet Arab regimes, including Kuwait.

The Kuwait Government shamelessly blamed Iran for an Iraqi MiG air raid on that country's largest oil refinery in 1981.

After the success of the Islamic revolution in Iran, Kuwait became a bridge for the fleeing criminals of the past regime who escaped from Kuwait to other countries. This damaging act was stepped up after the start of the war. Kuwait became a base for fugitive Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq guerrillas] and murdering terrorists.

We still have not forgotten how the Kuwait Government helped the hijacked Iranian airliner refuel and fly to France, and we have not forgotten how the Iraqi Ba'thist regime used Kuwait's maritime borders to shell Iranian oil fields in the Persian Gulf. This regime poisoned the drinking water of several Arab countries in the Persian Gulf, who came to Iran pleading for drinking water.

The policies of the Kuwaiti Government regarding the explosions last year in front of the French and American Embassies more than anything else shows that country's total dependence [on Iraq]. This is why on the same day of the explosions a puppet official of the Kuwait Foreign Ministry without an investigation blamed "Iranian elements" for the bombings. Even though several days after the explosions the Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait officially announced that the perpetrator of the explosions was an Iraqi citizen, the Kuwaiti authorities attacked Iranian schools and houses and savagely attacked the home of Iran's political attache, arresting and beating people.

Today any knowledgeable human being is aware of the roots of the crisis that exists between Iran and Kuwait and why the rulers of this country have still not awakened from their blissful sleep. The Islamic Republic of Iran is worried that the Kuwaiti authorities will awaken one day to discover their mistakes and crimes; then it will be too late and vengeance will have gripped them by the throat.

They must be sure that all their past records regarding their relations with the revolution and the war, the Iraqi regime and the Persian Gulf, plus the Iranian residents in Kuwait, are kept in a huge file. If one day the revolutionary patience of the Iranian people runs out, each item of this file would be grounds for and permission to seek merciless vengeance from them.

When the Muslim people of Iran felt that the shah was unbearable, they destroyed his throne and his monarchy. Now they feel the same way about the criminal, heretic regime in Baghdad and they will not be satisfied with anything short of its downfall. This is why they are supporting the imposed war with their lives and everything they own.

The Kuwaiti authorities should also learn a lesson from this. They should not play with the emotions of the Iranian people. The whole world is watching. They should beware that these emotions are not being used against them, because this would be very dangerous for them and they might have to pay a very high price in the end.

Tehran Commentary Justifies Seizure of Ships

GF181736 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Sep 85

[From the "Political Follow-Ups" program]

[Text] A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters of the Islamic Republic declared that naval units of the Islamic Armed Forces will continue to inspect suspect ships in the Persian Gulf and confiscate all consignments and military financial requirements destined for the ruling regime in Iraq via the Gulf.

Regarding Kuwait's request to the representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to intervene to prevent the Islamic Republic from seizing and inspecting suspect ships in Gulf waters, the spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said that considering Kuwait's continued role in supplying Iraq with its financial and material requirements and placing Kuwait's ports and roads at the disposition of the Baghdad regime for transporting arms and military equipment needed by this regime, and considering that Kuwait has not expressed a readiness to stop supporting an aggressor regime which insists on war, then the Islamic Republic has no other choice but to continue its inspections of ships suspected of carrying goods to Iraq, which generally fly Kuwaiti flags or are heading for Kuwait.

The War Information Headquarters spokesman added that Kuwait, by joining the Iraqi regime in hostile acts against the Islamic Republic, is increasing tension in this sensitive maritime region and helping to prolong and expand the war. The War Information Headquarters spokesman added that Islamic Iran, while observing the rules of war, and because it is besieging Iraq's ports, will never allow the Saddamist regime to profit from the waters of the Persian Gulf by transporting its military needs via Kuwait. And considering the difficulty of differentiating between ships carrying goods to Kuwait or those carrying goods to Iraq, the Islamic Navy will continue to inspect suspect ships.

In light of these statements, any objective assessment of the situation in the Persian Gulf region will show that the Islamic Republic has the right to inspect any ship heading toward a country whose officials openly side with Saddam in his war against the Islamic Republic and who use their media to defame and misinform the people of all events relating to the Islamic Republic, whether regarding the imposed war or internal events in Iran.

The safety of the Gulf and its security undoubtedly require showing good intentions, particularly if the matter is related to the rights of a country such as Iran. Every country knows its role in safeguarding the security and safety of the Persian Gulf and its distinguished capabilities in this field.

The numerous opportunities given by the Islamic Republic to all the neighboring countries in the Gulf and its pledge of good intentions should be acknowledged. Without question, the opportunities for understanding and the establishment of good relations with the Islamic Republic still exist. But will the other side respond to it?

Tehran Comments on Saudi Aircraft, Arms Purchase

GF181028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0453 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Saudi Arabia and Arms Purchases from England"]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A delegation of Saudi officials is currently in London discussing purchase of 48 Tornado fighters from the United Kingdom. The Saudi defense minister is supposed to arrive in London soon in this connection. We can see from a Saudi Government statement published in Washington recently that arms purchase agreements with the United Kingdom comply with Saudi policy concerning the diversification of sources of arms for the country. The statement stresses that the deal will not have a negative effect on Saudi-U.S. relations.

It was, in fact, the United States that was forced to steer the Saudis toward London because of the problems Washington is facing in implementing its Middle East policies as a result of recent developments. The U.S. State Department has noted that since the United States was unable to make a decision concerning the delivery of F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia, it is not surprising that Saudi Arabia has turned to other Western suppliers. White House spokesman, Larry Speakes, who avoided making any mention of Reagan's green light for Riyadh to purchase arms from London, noted that there were extensive discussions in progress between the United States and Saudi Arabia over the subject.

On the surface it looks as if Reagan, having promised the Saudis 40 F-15 fighters last February — Saudi Arabia currently has 68 of these fighters — has been forced to turn the Saudis toward London because of the possibility of opposition by congressmen supporting the Zionist regime. In addition, there are reports indicating that the Reagan cabinet decided early this summer to avoid putting the sale of these aircraft before Congress in order to obtain congressional consent to sell more arms to Egypt and Jordan. Whatever the reason, the Saudis are now busy dealing with the British in London.

Apparently the Saudis, who handed over the request for purchase of F-15 fighters to the United States last year, were also aware

that the purchase request would not be easily approved. Last December the Saudis asked to purchase F-15 fighters with additional fuel tanks for long-distance flights, as well as Stinger surface-to-air missiles and a variety of air-to-air missiles that can be fired from U.S. fighters. The list also included several AWACs spy planes in addition to the four currently stationed on Saudi soil. At the time, a limited competition was going on between the United States, France, and England, who wanted to sell Mirage or Tornado aircraft to Saudi Arabia. Earlier still, in August 1984, the countries which manufacture Tornado fighters — England, the FRG and Italy — had agreed to decide independently on the export of Tornados to Saudi Arabia. Thus, it is obvious that the idea of selling Tornados to Saudi Arabia existed long before the official request for purchase of F-15 fighters from the United States. As early as February 1984, the British Government had made a proposal on general arms sales to Saudi Arabia which was reviewed in the meeting between the Saudi and British defense ministers.

Currently, British officials note that they will not put any limitations on the use of Tornado fighters by Saudi Arabia, nor on where they will be stationed, adding that the sale will go through following the approval of the Reagan government. Delivery will begin in 20 months. The value of the deal is around $4 billion and includes 48 Tornados and 30 Hawk trainers.

We must remember, however, that Saudi arms purchases from the West fall within a precise framework pursued by the United States in the region to increase its combat capabilities. With its immense oil reserves, estimated at some 60 percent of world's total -- all of which is at U.S. disposal -- Saudi Arabia is of prime importance in the region in American eyes and must be saved from any threat.

Currently, almost 20 percent of U.S. oil imports are from Saudi Arabia. In addition, Saudi Arabia is the largest oil exporter to the West. This decisive factor has placed Saudi Arabia in a special position in Western strategy, as well as determining Saudi arms priorities to a large extent. For this reason Saudi Arabia decided some 2 years ago, following advice by Western experts, to strengthen its Air Force while fundamentally strengthening both its air and naval forces by 1990.

According to reports, the Saudis intend to increase the number of their fighters to 250 from the current 170 by 1990 and to spend a total of $12 billion to further rearm their Air Force. A more important matter is an agreement signed between the Saudis and the French last year on the basis of which the French will supply all necessary equipment for a complete and complex air defense system for 40 billion francs.

France, the United Kingdom, the FRG, Italy and the United States have jointly been arming the Saudis, which now has one of the most expensive Armed Forces in the world because of its immense expenditure. Yet it does not hold complete control over this power. The flood of arms to Saudi Arabia during the past few years has naturally been followed by a planned influx of military experts and personnel from the above-mentioned countries, particularly the United States. There are currently some 50,000 American, British, and French military advisers and personnel living in Saudi Arabia. Therefore, if we follow the situation to its conclusion, it would not be unrealistic to assume that the United States and its allies will turn Saudi Arabia into a true armory, using the wealth of the Saudi people for their future aggressions and military operations in the Middle East.

FRG To Sell Iraqi Oil To Recover Debts

LD172022 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Iraq's inability to repay debts to West Germany and the Western need to support Saddam against the Islamic Republic, has made the West German Ministry of Economics increasingly active in selling Iraqi oil in an effort to recoup some of its money.

The Baghdad regime had previously agreed to repay its two billion mark debt on the first day of October this year but it later said that it would not be able to pay back even the first part of the debt's interest at dollars 100 million [as received] the debt was due between 1983 and 1985.

Iraq and West Germany had agreed that Baghdad would pay the first portion of interest on Iraq's loan at dollars 100 million this year and pay back her two-billion dm debt to German companies and the German Government after 1986. According to German officials Iraq's minister of industry has told German minister of industries that Baghdad is unable to meet any part of its obligations.

Later the West German Government agreed to an unprecedented act of brokering Iraqi oil to international companies in an effort to increase Iraq's foreign currency reserves and eventually receive its own money. West German officials have not yet announced the price of the Iraqi oil that they would be supplying to the market and it is not clear whether the prices will confirm with OPEC rates.

All evidence indicates that the United States which provoked the Iraqi aggression against the Islamic Republic is now trying to keep the Baghdad regime from its doomed fall. It has been a U.S. initiative to persuade the West German Government in brokering Iraqi oil and receiving repayment for Iraq's borrowings.

KEYHAN Rates Government Performance

GF170944 Tehran KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 25 Aug 85 London Weekly Edition, p 2

[Editorial entitled "Government Week, an Evaluation of the Government's Performance"]

[Text] In an effort to provide the government with an opportunity to inform the public of its policies, progress and problems, "Government Week" has been declared from August 24 through August 31 this year. The week is being held in order to keep alive the memory of former President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Prime Minister Mohammad Javad Bahonar. At the same time the occasion keeps our nation aware of one of the most inhuman acts by the counterrevolution in its broad sense while reinforcing allegiance with the values that these two great men symbolized.

Taking into consideration the circumstances of four years ago which are very similar with the present situation, it can be said that the values these two martyrs adhered to were aimed at defending the innocence of the Islamic Revolution and its leadership, as well as to preserve and safeguard an Islamic state which had been achieved at the cost of the lives of thousands of martyrs' struggle, blood and fire.

The personal characteristics of Martyr Raja'i who had risen up from among the deprived masses of the society spent years of his life fighting the tyranny of the former dictatorial regime and who was a symbol of modesty before the nation, as well as Martyr Bahonar who was a symbol of knowledge, virtue and sympathy with the people, created a set of ideals which made possible the progress of the Islamic revolution on the path to achieve equity, justice, independence and freedom.

The idea of commemorating these two martyrs becomes a valuable pretext for our government in order to fulfill the safeguarding of the blood of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution through declaring the mission to help the oppressed and deprived, to establish a just Islamic system, to fight Zionism and global arrogance, and to export the values of the Islamic revolution.

However, the incentive behind the holding of "Government Week" goes beyond this and becomes a ground for the people to be kept informed of the policies, performances, progress and achievements of the government as well as its problems. The event also allows the government to become more aware of the viewpoints of the people who are the real owners of the revolution, and the main supporters of the government. As a result of this, the link between the government and the nation is further consolidated.

The relations between the officials of a system of government and the people are in fact the key for a revolution's being and remaining popular. It is natural that if the people are kept informed of the issues and of the measures which have been taken and if they are told about the weaknesses, shortages and bottlenecks in the way of the executive power, their support for the government would increase and their expectations would become more realistic and in proportion to the existing possibilities.

Therefore, if the government succeeds, in light of the principles and ideals of independence, freedom and justice which are promulgated and defended by Islam, in outlining its performance and if it removes the obstacles through a mutual link with the people, it would have fulfilled a major objective.

If we regard "Government Week" an occasion for evaluation, paying attention to the factors effective in the present situation, this could lead us to a more precise and comprehensive reality. In other words, it would be impossible to criticize and evaluate the government's achievements as well as its weaknesses by disregarding a set of factors which have influenced the strength, policies, measures and positions of the government and the executive power over the past four years. Here we briefly refer to these factors:

The war: To be realistic one should admit that war creates an extraordinary situation in a society. In addition to the incentives behind defense and the continuation of the war which must be evaluated within the framework of a ring of plots by global arrogance to lead the Islamic revolution to a deadlock in the region, the role of the war with regards to its material and human expenses in the society's economic, political and psychological dimensions, must be paid due attention;

Ceaseless conspiracies by global arrogance and the capitalist world: Returning Iran to the fold of international capitalism and plundering its national wealth and resources is among the elements compelling the West to disturb the stability of the Iranian revolution through its agents;

The wide-ranging attempts of economic, political and cultural counterrevolutionaries who, through embezzlement, smuggling, artificial shortages, ugly reactions vis-a-vis the Islamic culture and traditions, are desperately trying to damage the trend of the stabilization of the Islamic values of the revolution;

Opposition and obstruction made to question the services rendered by the government to the deprived. These tactics are mostly made by two groups of people: First, those who have a weak insight, and secondly, those who are interested in maintaining their personal advantages. These are very effective in creating problems and bottlenecks from the political, economic and cultural points of view.

These elements each of which influence the social situation of the Islamic revolution in some way, could be a good guide in evaluating the government's performance during "Government Week".

Iraqi Revolutionaries' Operations Detailed

GF181934 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries have attacked an important assembly area of the Saddamist forces in Al-'Amadiyah in northern Iraq, inflicting heavy losses on these forces. According to reports from northern Iraq, the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries carried out another operation in Al-'Amadiyah. In a surprise attack, the revolutionaries killed 10 mercenaries of Saddam's regime and wounded 11 others.

The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries also attacked an assembly area of the Saddamist forces in the governorate of Al-Sulaymaniyah, killing or wounding a number of these forces.

Commander Holds Press Conference on War Week

LD181939 Tehran IRNA in English 1915 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — Iran's ground forces commander Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi said here Wednesday that whenever the Iraqi regime should resume its attacks on Iranian cities, Iran would retaliate. Speaking at a press conference on the eve of the War Week here Colonel Shirazi said that by threatening to resume the war of the cities, Iraq's Saddam Husayn is after fomenting tension and terror in the region.

The Iraqi regime has no respect for humane principles in its war with Iran and does whatever evils it can against the Iranian

people, Shirazi said, noting that the Iranian Armed Forces are prepared to retaliate and are in full alert. He added that Saddam's regime started its aggression against Iran at a time all plots against Iran had been foiled. Iraq started its attack under the pretext of Arab and non-Arab war but really aimed at toppling the Islamic Republic as well as dampening its influence in the region, Shirazi said.

Colonel Shirazi pointed to the recent shelling of Piranshahr in West Azarbayjan by Iraqi forces, saying that the Iranian combatants had brought the Iraqi city of Diyanah under their heavy artillery fire and stopped shelling after the Iraqi forces gave up their fire on Piranshahr.

On the importance of weaponry in continuation of the war, Colonel Shirazi named the Iranian fighters' faith as the best weapon. "However", he noted, "the Islamic Republic does not deny the role of arms and material resources."

On the imam's recent order on establishment [of the] Navy, air and ground forces within the main body of the Islamic revolution's Guards Corps, he said that since the victory of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni as the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces had always emphasized on reinforcement of the Army and IRGC.

Gendarmerie Commander Interviewed on Successes

LD181921 Tehran IRNA in English 1826 GMT 18 Sep 85

["Gendarmerie in Full Array With the Rest of the Armed Forces" IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — Colonel Mohammad Sohrabi, commander of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said here Wednesday that Iran's Muslim combatants have taken back 92 Gendarmerie posts from Iraqi troops since the Iraq-Iran war. The Gendarmerie commander who was talking to IRNA on the occasion of the war week said many of the different pieces of weaponry earlier imported are now fully manufactured by Iranian workers at the military industries organization of Iran.

Colonel Sohrabi said Gendarmerie forces are present in the battle fronts and that Gendarmerie together with the other combatants contributes to the defence operations in Kordestan and west Azarbayjan Province. He said Gendarmerie had dealt repeated blows upon the antirevolutionaries and established security in the roads of the two provinces which for sometime used to be highly risky for motorists and travellers.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled by Iraq

GF181406 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, in continuation of their repeated crimes, the mercenaries of the Zionist regime ruling Iraq have shelled the steadfast towns of Abadan and Khorramshahr over the past 24 hours. As a result of this shelling by the heretic enemy's lang-range heavy artillery units, three houses were damaged in Abadan.

Iraq Bombs Civilian Areas

LD181512 Tehran IRNA in English 1503 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Sept. 18 IRNA — By attacking a number of villages in Bostan border town, northwest here, Wednesday, the Baghdad regime once again breached its commitment not to attack civilian areas. Iraqi planes violated the air space of the town at 08:30 hours local time (05:00 GMT) Wednesday and bombarded its nearby villages three times. The bombardment coincided with enemy artillery shelling of these towns. No immediate report on possible casualties or damage was available.

Iraqi Planes Violate Airspace

LD181538 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., Sept. 18 IRNA — Enemy planes violated the air space over the Oshnoviyeh region, south of here, three times Wednesday at 10:15, 11:50 and 12:50 hours local time (06:45, 08:20 and 09:20 hours GMT). The anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic forces repelled the intruding Iraqi planes which broke sound barrier when fleeing.

In another development, Iraqi planes violated the air space of the border city of Sardasht at 12:15 local time (08:45 GMT) Wednesday. This time too, the aggressor enemy planes were driven back by defence units of the Iranian forces, and broke the sound barrier.

Communique No 2,232

LD181632 Tehran IRNA in English 1622 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces in its Communique Number 2232 published Wednesday reported that the Iranian Muslim combatants exchanged artillery fire with the Iraqi forces in central fronts over the past 24 hours, killing and wounding eight Iraqi troops, destroying four bunkers and observation posts and also wrecking a vehicle of the enemy.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces chased and opened fire on Iraqi patrols in the heights of Siah Ab and Changuleh, killing a number of them and forcing the rest to flee, the command said. It added that bodies of some Iraqi soldiers were still in the battle scene.

Iraqi forces' operations in northern fronts including mine plantation and engineering activities were checked by the Iranian fighters, the communique said.

The communique added that southern fronts were the scene of sporadic artillery battle between Iranian fighters and Iraqi troops with the latter suffering some casualties and losses. A number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and some of the enemy bunkers and one vehicle were destroyed during the exchange of

fire with the Iranian forces on the banks of the Arvand River, the command said.

The command added that Iran's heavy ground-to-air fire repulsed Iraqi planes violating the air space of some border towns as well as operational regions over the past 24 hours.

The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were targets of Iraq's long-range artillery fire during the past 24 hours, wrecking some houses in Abadan and causing two cases of fire in Khorramshahr, the communique concluded.

More Clergymen Depart for Fronts

LD171412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Qom that, coinciding with the month of Moharram, the second group of volunteer clergymen from Qom Seminary were sent to the fronts of the war with the Zionist enemy yesterday evening. This report indicates that during the current week, the headquarters for dispatching clergymen at the Islamic Publicity Bureau has sent more than 450 clergymen to the southern fronts and to Ilam, Bakhtaran, Kordestan and Orumiyeh.

AFP: Mojahedin Publishes Execution List

AU171139 Paris AFP in English 1128 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Paris, Sept 17 (AFP) — The Paris bureau of the people's Mojahedin the left-wing Islamic Iranian opposition group, today published a list of 12,028 people it said were among 50,000 executed in Iran since June 1981. The executions of 5,000 of the 12,028 had been officially announced by the Tehran government, it said in a statement. The average age of those executed was just over 20, it added.

The published list contained the names of 599 people aged under 18, as well as 27 children and 45 women who were pregnant when executed. The statement said 361 people died under torture, 250 were hanged and most of the others were shot. A total of 130 families lost more than three children, and a little over one-quarter of those executed were school pupils or higher-education students, it added. The list included 300 Armed Forces officers. The statement asserted that the vast majority of those executed were members or sympathizers of the mojahedin.

People's Mojahedin leader Mas'ud Rajavi had sent the list to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, urging him to "spare no effort to put an end to executions and torture" in Iran.

Afghan Revolutionaries' Operations Detailed

GF171514 Tehran Television Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have aborted a counter offensive by Soviet and Afghan government troops and killed more than 100 of these forces. Thirty-three soldiers of the Karmal forces joined the ranks of the Muslim revolutionaries, bringing their weapons with them. Reports from Afghanistan said that the revolutionaries have destroyed a number of antiaircraft guns and three guns [type unspecified] belonging to the joint forces which tried to break the siege on the garrison at Khowst.

During other operations conducted by the Afghan revolutionaries in the Mirzakah region, they managed to destroy 7 tanks and 11 vehicles of the occupying forces. So far, no reports have been received on casualties suffered by the joint Soviet-Afghan government troops during these operations, but there is speculation that 50 of these forces were killed.

Attack on Qandahar Airport

LD181931 Tehran IRNA in English 1910 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] London, Sept 18, IRNA — Afghan mujahidin launched a suprise attack on Qandahar Airport, using ground-to-ground rockets and missiles, causing extensive damage to buildings and runway on August 25.

Quoting an eyewitness account, Afghan press agency sources reported that fighting continued till 12.00 at noon, resulting in heavy damage to the main airport terminal. A part of the runway was also put out of operation.

According to another report, the mujahidin of Al-Fatha Front forced a convoy of government and Soviet troops to retreat in the Gul Gandi area of Paktia Province. The convoy consisting of 35 armored personnel carriers came under a heavy barrage of rockets while preceding from Gardeyz to help the besieged cantonment at Jajay.

The casualties on both sides during the operations could not be confirmed.